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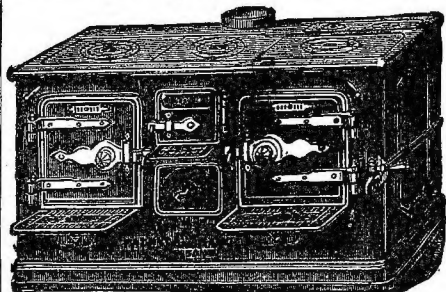
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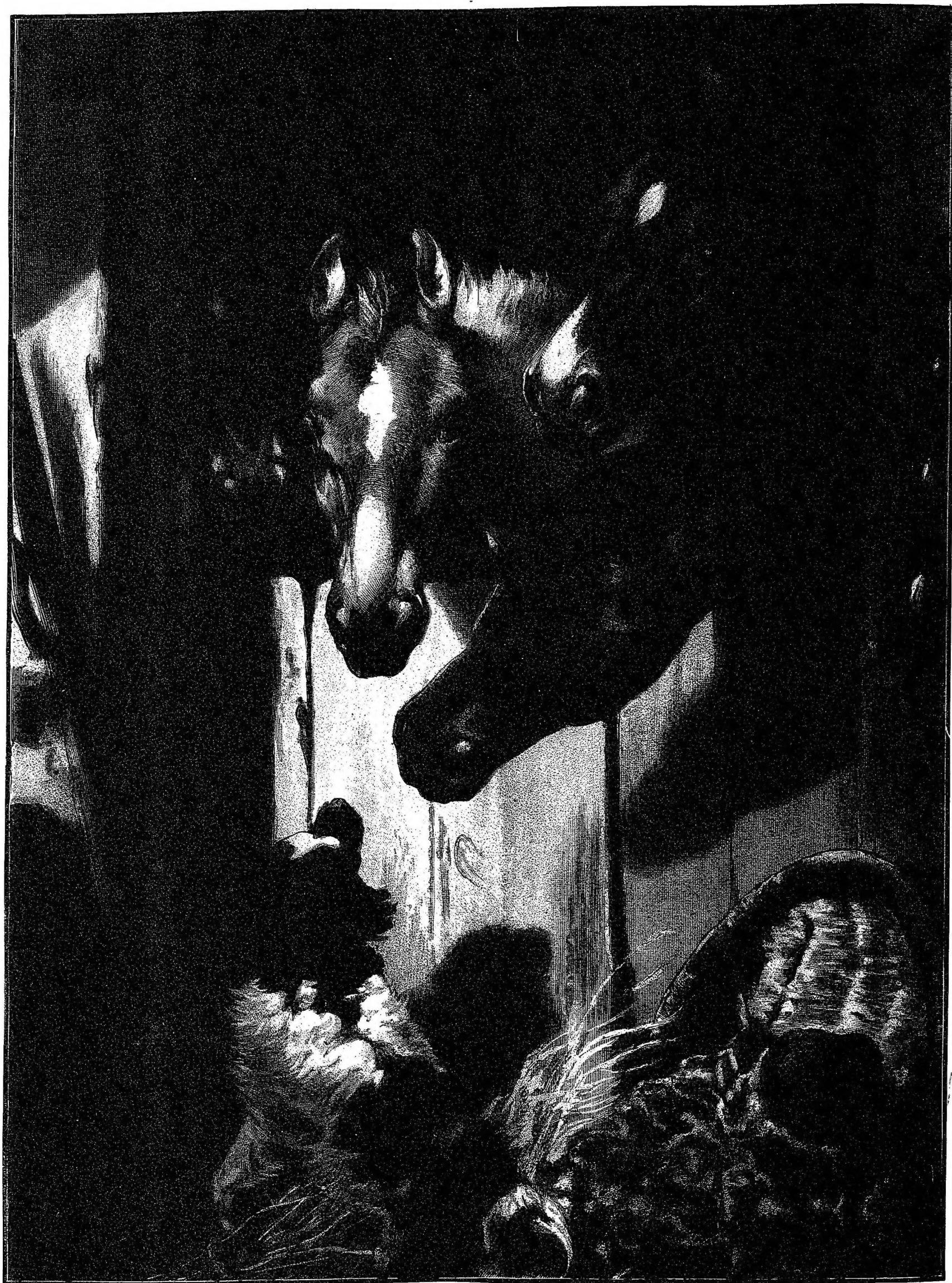
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"AT THE FOALS' STABLE"
FROM THE PICTURE BY G. KOCH

THE GEOGRAPHIC

AN ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

No. 693.—VOL. XXVII.
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SATURDAY, MARCH 10, 1883

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THE SILVER WEDDING OF THE IMPERIAL PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF GERMANY—THE "KÖNIGIN MINNE," OR "QUEEN OF LOVE" (PRINCESS WILLIAM), PRESENTING THE IMPERIAL PRINCESS WITH A SILVER WREATH

FROM SKETCHES BY OUR SPECIAL ARTISTS

Topics of the Week

MR. GLADSTONE'S STATEMENT ABOUT EGYPT.—Mr. Gladstone's first evening in the House of Commons after his return was made memorable by a very important statement about English policy in Egypt. Lord Hartington had expressed a vague hope that England might withdraw her troops from that country in six months; and the immediate result was that something very like panic spread among European residents at Cairo and Alexandria. The Prime Minister took the earliest opportunity that presented itself to say that Lord Hartington had not pledged his colleagues to any definite action, and that the Government did not intend to abandon Egypt until the objects for which they had intervened had been accomplished. In his definition of these objects he included all the ends which have ever been held by responsible statesmen to justify England in putting down Arabi's rebellion. It would have been impossible for Mr. Gladstone to do anything which would have shown more decisively the importance of his reappearance in Parliament. The Radicals have been displeased by his statement, but the grounds of their dissatisfaction are not obvious. They objected very naturally to the intervention of England on behalf of the Khédive; but they are surely not logically bound to hold that, after England has intervened, she ought to leave Egypt in a state of anarchy. For all the world admits that the presence of British troops is absolutely essential to the maintenance of order. If Mr. Gladstone were to follow the counsels of his Radical supporters, the position of the fellahcen would be a thousand times worse than it was before we went to their aid. Arbitrary rule, in its most violent forms, would be revived; probably Turkey would re-establish her supremacy; and if England did not do over again all that she has done lately, some other Power or Powers would certainly step in to do it instead of her. The only course the British Government can pursue, either with safety or with honour, is to retain their present position in Egypt until they provide adequate guarantees against the recurrence of recent difficulties; and Englishmen generally are relieved to find that this is the course which is actually to be adopted.

PROPOSED REMEDIES FOR THE IRISH TROUBLES.

It is to be feared, as Sir J. D. Hay frankly said the other day, that the public are getting "sick of Ireland." They are interested in the unravelment of the Phoenix Park murders, and in the pursuit after "Number One," because these are incidents which minister to the popular love of sensation; but they are not keenly interested in the actual condition of the island, and the various schemes propounded for its improvement. There is much excuse for this apathy. Tories maintain that, but for the "pestilent activity" of the Gladstone Government, discontent and disloyalty would never have become so formidable; Radicals are disgusted to find that all their benevolent efforts have failed to elicit a spark of gratitude from the mass of Irishmen, who are more anti-British than ever, and who at the same time, judging from the bulk of the members they send to represent them in Parliament, have but a small capacity for self-government. Still, for better or worse, the fates of Great Britain and Ireland are bound up together irrevocably; for even if the political connexion were severed, the geographical propinquity would still remain. The various suggestions, therefore, for removing Irish discontent and distress ought to receive careful attention on this side of St. George's Channel. No sensible person believes in panaceas; at the same time, several of the proposed remedies may in their several ways bear good fruit. For instance, as a recent debate showed Irish education is very far from what it might be made. These defects are not due to any incapacity on the part of the people, who are both remarkably quick-witted and eager for learning. They are chiefly due to the apprehensions of the Roman Catholic Church, which desires, and indeed demands, that all secular knowledge should be poured exclusively from its own vessels. If the average Irish peasant or artisan could be induced to feel pride as the citizen of a mighty empire, instead of cherishing the phantom of a bygone nationality, the Union would be accomplished really, and not merely legally. Then as regards emigration. There are certain districts of the West where the holdings are too small and barren to support the occupiers properly, even if they paid no rent at all, and it would be well if such people were transferred (cautiously and in family groups) to more fertile regions, where moreover labour is in great demand. It is no wonder that Irish landlords, as a body, are utterly dissatisfied with their present position; they would like to be bought out, at a price, and this is the real meaning of the Conservative demand for the establishment of a peasant proprietary. Otherwise, it is difficult for any true well-wisher to Ireland to regard with complacency the possible ownership of the soil by a number of peasants; for not only will the labourers feel indignant at the creation of a privileged minority (who will be the old landlords over again, *minus* their culture and intelligence), but the physical improvements which Ireland so imperatively needs, such as reafforesting and arterial drainage, will never be undertaken by a host of impecunious petty yeomen.

HISTORY IN OPERA.—There is something naturally ludicrous in the Opera. The humorous element vanishes, perhaps, in the midst of music and scenery, but opera, and especially historical opera, does not bear being reported in cold blood. Our Henry VIII., bluff King Hal, now appears on the lyric stage in Paris. The description of his adventures would, to use a strong American expression, make a stuffed bird laugh. The French are always funny in their imaginative dealings with English history. Balzac wrote an early work in which Henrietta Maria overhears in Westminster Abbey, at night, Cromwell and Ireton conspiring behind a tomb, Cromwell, of course, taking the rôle of "Number One." In the new French opera Henry VIII. assures Catherine that he loves her, notwithstanding (1) his scruples at marrying his brother's widow; (2) the difference in age; (3) the lack of heirs male. What a subject for song! But Catherine (according to the delicious Paris correspondent of the *Times*) "feels that an ulterior motive has been formed by her husband." There is a very diverting passage when Catherine expires in the act of refusing to betray a flirtation of Anne Boleyn's, and the King chants, "if ever I learn that I have been trifled with, *the axe is ready*." This is almost worthy of Mr. W. S. Gilbert; but "history tells the rest," says the judicious correspondent. For continuation of the new opera, see the works of Mr. Froude. The mere notion of the Papal Legate singing "surprises by himself," to quote Count Smorltork.

ATROCITIES IN SOUTH AFRICA.—It is not surprising that Mr. Gladstone hesitated to believe without further evidence the statements made by Mr. Gorst the other evening in the House of Commons about Boer cruelties. A more revolting story has not been told since all the world was shocked by the outrages of Bashi-Bazouks in Bulgaria. It may prove to be untrue or exaggerated; but the correspondence "respecting the affairs of the Transvaal and the adjacent territories," which has been issued this week, shows that the proceedings of the Boers in Bechuanaland must receive—to say the least—very grave attention. Bands of marauders are continually breaking into native territory; and Mr. Rutherford, the Secretary to the British Resident at Pretoria, having visited the disturbed districts, gives a startling account of the means by which the brigands enrich themselves. Murder seems to put no strain on the consciences of these robust Dutchmen; and Mr. Rutherford is of opinion that, if they are let alone, "tribe after tribe will be pushed back and back upon other tribes, or absolutely perish in the process which is going on." It may be said that, after all, the Transvaal Government are not responsible; but Sir Hercules Robinson, who ought to know something of the matter, does not take this view. The authorities at Pretoria persistently refuse to take any measures for the repression of disorder; and there can be no doubt that their aim is to obtain possession of the lands ruled by the chiefs Mankoroane and Montsiod, who have hitherto looked in vain to England for effectual support. Lord Derby will, no doubt, renew the protests which have already been addressed to the Boers on the subject; but he will not accomplish much by mere protests. The Boers have a very vivid recollection of their recent triumph over us; and they are convinced, as they might have been expected to be, that nothing will induce us again to advance from words to blows in our dealings with them. Unfortunately, a serious threat of blows appears to be the only argument which is likely to persuade them of the inexpediency of inhumanity.

THE "FREETHINKER" PROSECUTION.—In his charge to the jury, Mr. Justice North narrowed the legal definition of "blasphemy" so as to make it especially applicable to the charge against the prisoners then before him. The actual existing law against blasphemy is of far wider scope, and might be put in force against writers who have impugned the doctrines of Christianity with the greatest decency and decorum. Our forefathers had none of the modern squeamishness. They felt that the assault might be all the more dangerous because politely expressed, and their object was to put down such assaults, from whatever quarter they might come, coarse ribaldry being probably, in their estimation, less hurtful than polished sarcasm. We moderns, however, have altered all this—whether for the better or for the worse we will not say. The modern sentiment is that a man may write or say what he pleases about religion provided he expresses himself in decent language. The law concerning blasphemy was amended in this direction in the Criminal Code brought in by the Government three Sessions ago, and no doubt, when the Code passes, the article on this offence will be substantially to the above effect. Mr. Justice North, therefore, acted wisely in interpreting for the benefit of the jury the law of blasphemy rather as it will be than as it nominally is. He was scarcely so wise when, in sentencing the prisoners, he regretted that Foote should have "chosen to prostitute his talents to the work of the Devil." Here Mr. Justice North ceased to be Gallio, and became for the nonce as one of the high priests of orthodoxy, for these trenchant words might be fitly applied by fervent believers in revelation to a good many Agnostics as well as Mr. Foote. Such trials as these are very painful, but common sense teaches us that in polemical discussions there are boundaries of decency which must not be overpassed. It is the province of a jury to decide whether these boundaries have been transgressed,

and we venture to prophesy that for the future, while decorous comment will be as free as heretofore, a wholesome restraint will be placed on the publication of such ribald stuff as Mr. Foote and his allies compiled for the delectation of Christmas readers.

A DOG STORY.—People seem to be very casual in Wisconsin. A family there was lately surprised by seeing their dog come in with a piece of paper tied to his tail. To see a dog with a tin kettle tied to his tail used to be no great novelty, but the piece of paper excited more curiosity. On the paper was the following inscription: "My legs are broken; please help me." The owners of the hound naturally supposed that the "legs" referred to were those of the attached and faithful animal. He was therefore surgically examined by his spirited proprietors, but his legs were found to be in perfect health. Just at this moment some one fortunately recognised in the handwriting of the inscription that of a woman who lived about half-a-mile from the house. A "search party" went off, discovered the woman, and found that she had, in fact, broken both her legs, and was in some discomfort. The dog had paid her a visit, and she had used him to carry her message. But how cautious must this lady have been, or how accustomed to sending anonymous letters! She had, perhaps, been told, in a general way, "never to sign anything," and so she had not signed the message about her legs. It was a mere accident that her handwriting was recognised, and that she was rescued from the starvation which she dreaded. This teaches us that we should always sign our letters in a legible hand, a lesson, alas! too much neglected by many literary people.

M. FERRY'S MINISTRY.—It is not very easy to understand the policy of the Extreme Radicals in France. They forced the question of the Revision of the Constitution on the Chamber, although they knew that they could not hope to triumph without the aid of the reactionary parties; and that, if they succeeded, they would be unable to form a Radical Government. The only consequence of their victory would have been a new deadlock, which could hardly have tended to increase the confidence of Frenchmen in the working of free institutions. Fortunately, M. Ferry was supported by a large majority; so that the Constitution is safe from attack for some time, and France has the satisfaction of knowing that a fairly strong Ministry is once more in power. M. Ferry has perhaps a better opportunity for promoting useful legislation than has been possessed by any French Premier since the establishment of the Republic; for public attention is not absorbed by any "burning questions," and the majority of the nation seem to be heartily tired of Ministerial crises. He has not the faculty of exciting enthusiasm, but he is a man of tact and resource; and in quiet times the fact that he does not arouse bitter personal jealousies ought to be in his favour. In regard to foreign policy, M. Ferry's Government will have themselves to blame if they do not achieve more satisfactory results than their immediate predecessors. Most Frenchmen are disposed to admit that, in the treatment of the Egyptian Question, M. Duclerc acted neither with dignity nor with prudence. He did what he could to alienate England, without gaining a single advantage for France. The passions evoked after the battle of Tel-el-Kebir have now been allayed; and France may, if she pleases, easily re-establish cordial relations with this country. England is not, indeed, inclined to abandon any of the rights she has acquired in Egypt; but she can show that these rights do not in any way conflict with important French interests.

POLITICAL EXTRADITION.—Nations ought to be glad to get rid of other nations' rogues, and, in ordinary cases, they are quite willing to give them up when they are asked for. But while private crimes, as we may term them, are looked upon in every civilised country with a tolerably equal degree of disapprobation, there are certain other alleged offences concerning which opinions differ. If the crime charged against the person whose extradition is demanded has any reference to religion or politics, it is quite possible that while one party regards him as a villain another party may esteem him as a martyr. Not ineffectively the other day did Mr. McCarthy remind Mr. ex-Secretary Forster that there was a time when his views concerning the Italian patriot (or suborner of assassins) Mazzini differed very considerably from those entertained by the Austrian Government. Just now, perhaps, we English are destined to realise the truth of the old proverb about sauce for the goose being sauce for the gander. In happy bygone days, when assassination plots were Continental phenomena, unheard of on this side of the "silver streak," our Whig-Radical statesmen, when asked to surrender alleged conspirators, talked solemnly of the sacred rights of asylum. We are now likely to be hoist with our own petard. It is quite possible that, even if we can frame a plausible case against Messrs. Byrne, Sheridan, and others, France and America may respectively decline to surrender them. Republics are always suspicious of such demands from monarchies. America refused to give up Kossuth to Austria; France refused to give up Hartmann (whom we unintentionally honour by coupling him with Kossuth) to Russia. Then American politicians have always to keep an eye on the Irish vote. On the other hand, no country in the present day can afford to be over-civil to suspected assassins. Anarchy is rife, and the turn of France

or America may come before long, so that it is their interest as well as their duty to act towards us in this unpleasant business exactly as they would desire us in a similar case to act towards them.

PAYMENT OF WAGES IN PUBLIC HOUSES.—The opponents of the "Payment of Wages in Public Houses Prohibition Bill," read a second time in the House of Lords the other day, talked a good deal about the folly of "grandmotherly" legislation. The word is thought to be a rather effective one; but it is very apt to be used by persons who are manifesting the common tendency to "beg the question." Of course nobody wants legislation which can be shown to be grandmotherly. When the State intervenes to protect particular classes against specified evils, objectors do not advance their cause by calling opprobrious names; they are bound to show that intervention is likely to do more harm than good. Now, as regards the present instance, it must be admitted that it would be infinitely better if workmen were able to combine to protect themselves; but, on the whole, the evidence seems to show that they are not in a position to do so. The grievance affects unskilled labourers, who are not accustomed to act together, and who are practically at the mercy of their employers. If the State does not say that the payment of wages in public houses shall come to an end, it will go on; and this means, as Lord Shaftesbury and other speakers argued, that we must be prepared for the continuance of a vast amount of drunkenness which might otherwise be checked. Multitudes of labourers, when they receive their wages at the counter of a gin-shop, are quite unable to resist the temptation of celebrating the occasion by a "spree;" and they are frequently encouraged to obey their natural impulse by the fact that their foreman, or some other person in authority over them, happens to be part-proprietor of the establishment. Why should not the State in such a case as this limit the freedom of the subject? The measure would be beneficial to the community at large; it would not be resented by the subject himself; and it is very urgently wanted by the subject's wife, who often knows better than he does what is really good for him.

LONDON MARKETS.—Although we all growl, and not unreasonably, at the inadequacy of such a place as Covent Garden, attempts to establish new markets have hitherto not been very successful in London. There is a kind of market which still flourishes in country towns, which is probably unattainable with us nowadays. We mean the market where booths appear as if by magic on one or more days of the week, and where the salesmen and saleswomen are for the most part genuine farmers and gardeners, who come with their carts laden with home-grown produce. London is too big and unprimitive in its ways for this sort of thing; and the market-gardeners and farmers are too far off. Then, again, in London, the costermongers with their "shallows" form a sort of peripatetic market (stationary, too, in certain districts on Saturday nights), which supply many of the food-wants of the bulk of Londoners. Nevertheless, there seems to be an opening for markets. All the more so, perhaps, now that the public have become familiarised with "universal providers" in the form of gigantic stores; and, at all events, capitalists have come forward with the intention of erecting four markets on a large scale in London. There is to be a Fish Exchange in Queen Victoria Street, which, it is to be hoped, will break down the alleged Billingsgate monopoly; and there are proposed markets for general purposes in South Kensington, Paddington, and near the Strand end of Waterloo Bridge. We especially hope the latter will be successful; if it is, it will perhaps wake up the Duke of Bedford more effectively than all the satire of comic journalism.

THAT OLD CAUDEEN.—In one thing Irishmen are indefatigably industrious. They never slacken for a moment in the task of "sending round the hat." The hat, into which the patriotic Celt, and the "murderous" Saxon, the abhorrent Tory, the "base, bloody, and brutal Whig," the "Invincible brother," the American, the Australian, the Englishman, are alike asked to drop their alms, is for ever being circulated. Irish patriots beg for bread from England; for lead (to quote one of their own partisans), from American sympathisers; for dynamite, from the Irish helps of New York; for subscriptions towards a testimonial to Mr. Parnell, from high-spirited natives. The moment does not seem very favourable. These pious efforts to "make a collection" are not simultaneously successful. Charitable as our countrymen are, they think twice before giving bread to people who will reply with a stone, with cold steel, or with some new patent explosive. Even the enthusiasts who are asked to give Mr. Parnell a testimonial send their cheques in but slowly. What would Ireland do if she were severed from England, and could no longer beg for public grants and private alms? In the meantime, the accounts which describe Irish children, innocent children, starving on oatmeal and seaweed, are so pitiful that many of us may forget politics, abjure political economy, and subscribe to alleviate this intolerable wretchedness.

NOTICE.—With this Number is issued an EXTRA COLOURED SUPPLEMENT, entitled, "AT THE FOALS' STABLE," from the Picture by G. Koch, in the GRAPHIC EXHIBITION of ANIMAL PAINTINGS, 148, New Bond Street, W. This is the second of a Series of COLOURED SUPPLEMENTS to be issued with this Journal.

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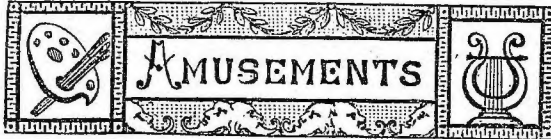
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THE SILVER WEDDING AT BERLIN

NOTES BY OUR SPECIAL ARTIST

THE fête in the Royal Castle at Berlin in commemoration of the Silver Wedding of the Prince and Princess Imperial of Germany will, no doubt, be remembered by those who took part in and witnessed it as one of the most successful of the many magnificent pageants which have taken place in the old building since the first King of Prussia held his Court there. In addition to the usually brilliant Court, invitations had brought together Princely, and Royal, and Imperial representatives of the different Courts of Europe to add to the magnificence of the scene in the White Saloon on the evening of February 25th. It was somewhat past nine o'clock when, to the strains of the "Wedding March," the Prince and Princess Imperial led the procession of Royal and Imperial guests into the Saloon, taking their seats under a crimson and gold dais, the Princess crowned with the silver wreath of myrtle, the Prince wearing a small silver bouquet on his breast. The Queen of Saxony sat on the Prince's left, the Emperor being on his right, in the scarlet uniform of the Gardes du Corps. Next to the Emperor sat the Duchess of Edinburgh, then the Prince of Wales in the splendid uniform of the Blücher Hussars, between whom and the Duke of Edinburgh sat the Duchess of Anhalt. The King of Saxony sat on the right of the Princess Imperial, next came the Grand Duchess of Baden and the Prince Imperial Rudolph of Austria. A tremendous flourish of trumpets announced the commencement of the pageant; and preceded by four similarly attired trumpeters, fourteen heralds, bearing alternately the arms of England and Germany on their dress, took up their position in line facing the Throne, towards which Herr von Hülsen advanced, and saluted the princely wedding pair with the recitation of a short and appropriate poem written for the occasion. The heralds, having taken up positions round the room in extended order, to the crash of a stately march the *Minnezug*, or procession of troubadours, in medieval costume, entered, headed by Count Portales in rich flowing Italian robes, leading Countess Szechenyi, also in Italian costume, and followed by so many rich and historically correct dresses that it would be fruitless to attempt a description of the various fashions. A few stood out in prominence, such as the brilliant and somewhat quaint costume of Archduke Max, accompanied by Mary of Burgundy, the former wearing a crown on his hat, of peculiar fashion, and an ermine-lined cloak of heavy crimson velvet, his partner wearing a blue-and-gold brocade of wonderful Gothic pattern. There were pages bearing arms, and more knights with ladies wearing the steeple-shaped hair-dress which maintained its popularity amongst the devotees of fashion for more than 100 years. Two Oriental knights in rare chain armour and graceful fluttering Eastern silks and woven fabrics were the point of attraction in a splendid group of Easterns. A lady in a rich dark green velvet, following Frederick III. reminded one of the Princess in the "Weise König" of Burgkmaier, with the addition of life and beauty. Finally came the Minne Queen herself, personified by Princess Wilhelm, in brocade, ornamented with silver and roses, borne by pages on a golden throne, surrounded by ladies attending, and pages bearing garlands on poles, and in her hand holding a staff with a silver branch at the end. The attendants of the Minne Queen executed a graceful quadrille, and then the whole Gothic procession, with the Minne Queen, moved away to make room for the next procession, which was announced by the blare of trumpets and preceded by English Beefeaters. This was the English Procession, and gay and gallant, solemn and stiff, old and young courtiers, clad in dresses of every conceivable colour and shape, the stiff ruffs, small caps, shrunken cloaks, with huge points, brought one back to the time of Good Queen Bess herself, who, with astonishing collar and ruff, was admirably, and with dignity, represented by Countess Stolberg-Wernigerode, whose immense train of ermine and velvet was borne by four ladies and two pages. More Beefeaters and puffed and slashed courtiers followed, with coats beginning halfway down the shoulders, and finishing in the small of the back. I have no doubt, however, that, true as the costumes all were historically, sawdust, so much in vogue in those days for producing wonderful effects in padding and puffing, was supplanted by a modern substitute.

At any rate no startling and rapid reduction of size amongst the noble actors took place, such as one has read of as occurring at Queen Elizabeth's Court. Presently, sixteen pairs of Elizabethan courtiers executed a fine old English dance, to the sound of an unaccompanied choir of voices, the music being adapted from an old English motive. The dance was one of simple dignity, in harmony with the music. Prince Wilhelm and Lady Amplill led in these dancers.

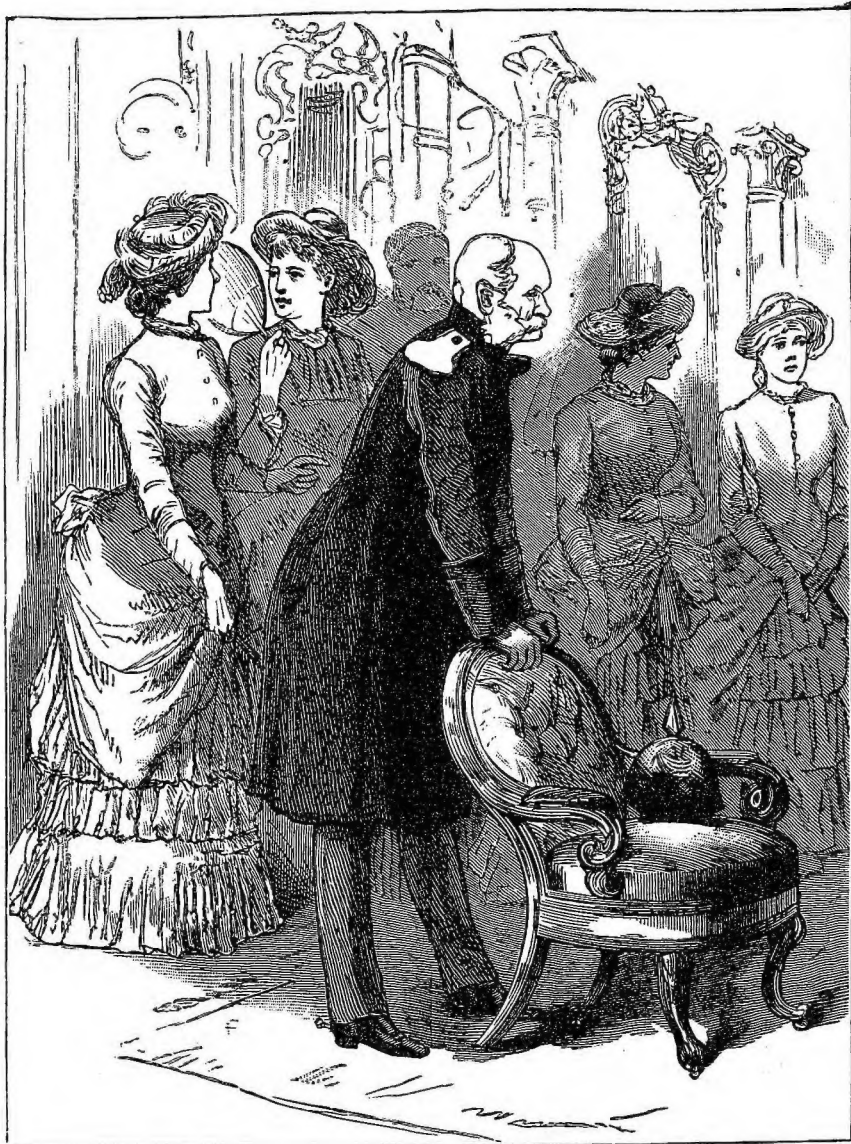
The English Quadrille was followed by a German Quadrille, executed by ladies and gentlemen in the costume of the Thirty Years' War time, both music and step being of a lively waltzing nature, in direct contrast to the solemnity of the preceding dance.

The last Procession was that of the Berlin Artists, led in by a standard-bearer in old German costume, followed by boys in simple pages' costume bearing scrolls, and crowned with roses, and singing (the latter was not very pleasant, unfortunately). Lanz-Knechte (men at arms) followed, their weapons wreathed with garlands, and then came more lads crowned with flowers, bearing an ingeniously manufactured vase (the metals supplied by the tubes of the used oil colours) on a velvet-coloured stand, which was literally loaded with flowers. More Lanz-Knechte followed, and then came groups of celebrated artists of different nations of bygone times. The original and quaint dresses were numerous, and many a one was a picture by itself: the palm for the most correct and tasteful costume it would be difficult to bestow, where each was so perfect. Herr Dielitz, in Italian costume with long flowing sleeves, and laurel-crowned, addressed the Princely pair in appropriate words, offering the vase as a gift of the Berlin Artists. The Princess Imperial, herself a proficient with the brush, and member of several leading Societies, as well as a patroness of Art, graciously acknowledged the gift, and many of the artists, when they defiled before the throne, returned her friendly greeting.

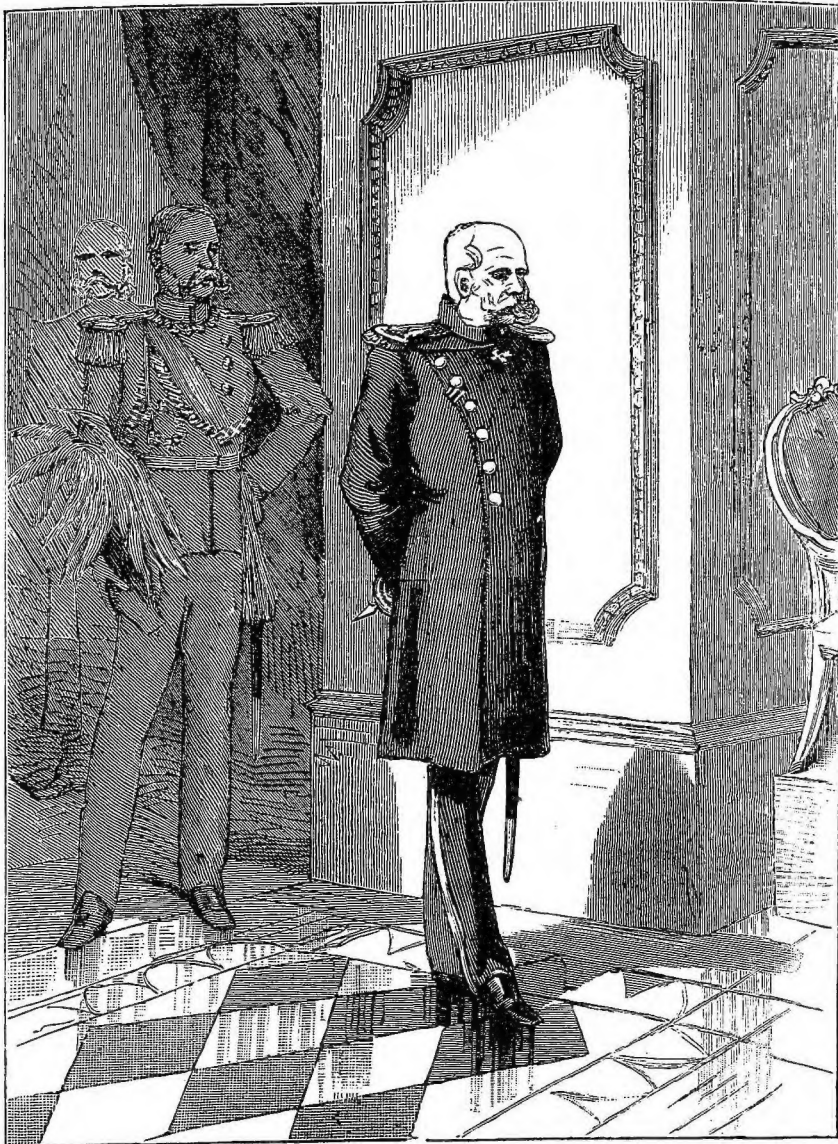
One graceful act closed the Pageant. All those who had hitherto taken part thronged into the space, and with a military accuracy were massed, with the Minne Queen in the front, facing the throne. To a crash of music her car was lowered, and Princess Wilhelm descending, offered the silver branch from her staff to the Princess Imperial, who, taking it, led her to a seat, and therewith closed the Costume Fête. The old Emperor was to be seen moving about and saluting different notabilities in his Court, before the whole company moved away to take refreshment at the buffets at eleven.

IRISH SUSPECTS IN PARIS—ARREST OF MR. FRANK BYRNE

PARIS, having settled her own little political troubles, for the present at least, is all absorbed in the two Irish personages who have been arrested upon the denunciation of James Carey, and who are now awaiting the result of the British Government's claim for extradition. Mr. Frank Byrne, the Secretary of the English Land and Labour League, was at Cannes at the time of the examination



THE EMPEROR WATCHING THE REHEARSAL OF THE COSTUME PROCESSION
Fac-simile of a Sketch by our Special Artist, Mr. C. E. Fripp.

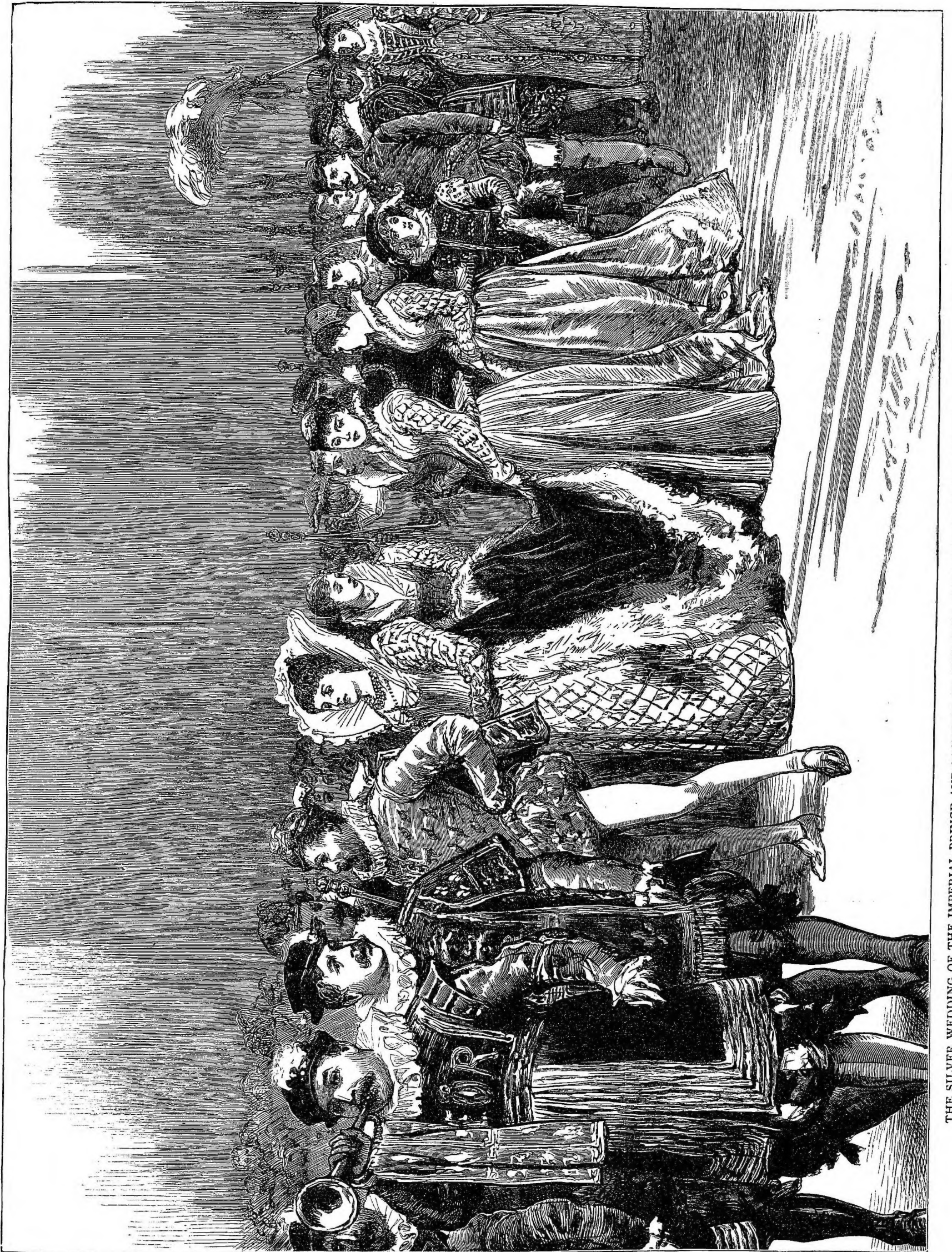


THE REHEARSAL—ENTRANCE OF THE EMPEROR
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THE OLD GERMAN QUADRILLE

THE SILVER WEDDING OF THE IMPERIAL PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF GERMANY
FROM SKETCHES BY OUR SPECIAL ARTISTS



THE SILVER WEDDING OF THE IMPERIAL PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF GERMANY—THE OLD ENGLISH PROCESSION: QUEEN ELIZABETH AND HER COURT
FROM SKETCHES BY OUR SPECIAL ARTISTS

of James Carey, and it will be fresh in the memory of all that Mrs. Byrne was arrested in London, conveyed to Dublin, and, on not being identified by Carey, was immediately released, with many apologies. Mrs. Byrne then went to Paris, and joined her husband, and both were on the point of returning to London, when they learned that a warrant was out against Mr. F. Byrne. Thereupon they remained in Paris, first in a hotel in the Rue St. Hyacinthe, and next at a house in the Rue St. Honoré. There, on the morning of Wednesday week, some French detectives arrested Mr. Byrne, who, expressing no surprise, and, offering no resistance, was quietly taken to the Prefecture of Police, where, replying to the usual interrogatories, he called attention to a flaw in the warrant, which had been issued by a Dublin Magistrate, by which he was styled Secretary of the Land League only. He also denied that he was guilty of assassination. Mr. Byrne is treated with every consideration by the French police, occupying two roomy cells, one of which he uses as a bedroom. Mr. Byrne, the *Times* correspondent tells us, is a man about thirty-five years of age, above the average height, and appears to be robust and resolute. He has a red beard and whiskers. He is well dressed, talks but little, and his face, which wears an intelligent appearance, shows no trace of emotion. Mr. John Walsh, who has been arrested at Havre, is asserted to be the man who in 1881 told Carey that he had come to "establish a society which would make history" (i.e., the Assassination Society), and who administered to him the oath of the Irish Invincibles. Mr. Walsh, who is between forty and fifty years of age, worked in early life in an iron foundry at Rochdale. He took an active part in Irish matters, a correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* tells us, and rapidly gained great influence amongst his countrymen, becoming head centre of the Fenian organisation in the North of England. About the time of the murder of Sergeant Brett he was arrested, but subsequently released for want of evidence. On the establishment of the Land League, Mr. Walsh became organiser in the North of England. On his arrest his papers were at once searched, and letters were found signed "Byrne," together with a portrait of a man supposed to be the mysterious and much-sought-for "No. 1." Mr. Walsh was staying at Havre under the name Hylands. Unfortunately for him he made friends with a man staying at the same hotel, and telling him he wished to go to the United States went with him to book a berth. His companion, who, curiously enough, happened to be a detective, noticed that he signed his name "Walsh," and accordingly at once telegraphed to Dublin for a warrant for his arrest. There is very brisk discussion respecting the legality of the extradition of Messrs. Byrne and Walsh in all the French journals. The two extremes meet as usual, the Clericals sympathising with the Irish on account of their religion, while the Radicals are rampant at the idea of M. Jules Ferry "gibbet-purveying" for the treacherous Britishers. The more moderate journals also recall the fact that England refused to surrender the Communists in 1871, and draw a consequent parallel between the two cases. With regard to the Irish now in Paris, even a Member of Parliament is not exempt from surveillance, and a few days since Mr. O'Kelly, M.P., noticed another carriage persistently following his own. He jumped out and (according to one account) belaboured the inmate, who proved to be a detective, and who, nothing daunted, subsequently continued to follow Mr. O'Kelly, though at a more respectful distance.

CETEWAYO RECEIVING A DEPUTATION

OUR engraving is from a sketch by Lieut. M. F. Rimington, of the 6th (Inniskilling) Dragoons, and represents Cetewayo restored to his own country, and surrounded by his enthusiastic subjects. Lieutenant Rimington writes:—"We have just arrived at Intonyane, situated upon a broad, open, and grassy hill, about fifteen miles from Ulundi. This morning Cetewayo received one of several deputations, a ceremony called 'Indaba.' This deputation, in particular, was from his relatives. The members came up and surrounded him, crying 'It is he!' and tearing up the grass at his feet. They then fell back, except a few chiefs, who sat at his feet and listened to his conversation. The remainder danced and sang, keeping time with their sticks raised in the air, one of the women now and then dancing and singing across the open space in front of the King. Those natives who had before been received by Cetewayo sat down close by me and talked hard. They said they had thought that the King was a doll dressed up; but now they are sure that it is Cetewayo. Others thought that the figure was his brother, who was killed at the Tugela eighteen years ago, and whose dead body they had not seen; now, however, they knew the King to be the real Simon Pure. The three men on the right of my sketch are making a bush shelter under which to cook food. Farther to the right are the King's waggons and his dogs. As for Tommy Atkins, he is looking on the scene with interest. It seems to me that King Cetewayo's subjects are somewhat afraid of him. The women kiss his hands, and may be seen sitting on the right centre of my sketch intently watching their sovereign, and talking to each other in whispers."

THE ENGLISH CART-HORSE SOCIETY'S SHOW

THE Agricultural Hall last week was as thronged as it is during the Cattle Show week, and it is evident that the Cart-horse Show has effectually won its way to the popular heart. We ought all to rejoice over this fact; for, while a good many people are of opinion that the advantages conferred by the breeding of racehorses are almost neutralised by the blacklegery which seems to be the inevitable accompaniment of racing, no such prejudice can attach to the gentle giants who draw our waggons. Themselves innocent, they do not, like racehorses, exercise a deteriorating influence on the bipeds with whom they are associated; while, horseflesh of all kinds being dearer and more in demand than ever, he who helps to improve the breed of cart-horses is a national benefactor.

This year there were 245 entries, of which 148 were stallions, and there were so many first-class animals that the judges spent the whole of Tuesday in allotting the several prizes and honours among the six classes of entire horses.

There were 25 yearlings, and the judges had great difficulty in deciding between Mr. T. H. Miller's bay by Lincoln and Mr. Walter Johnson's The Coming K.; but ultimately awarded the first honour to the former. The two-year-old class was still larger and better. There were 48 entered, and the first prize fell to Roan Jumbo. Among the three-year-olds, a magnificent lot, the blue riband was obtained by Lord Ellesmere's handsome bay, Esquire.

The stallions over five years old were divided into two classes, those not exceeding 16 hands 2 inches, and those of unlimited height. In the latter class the prize fell to Spark, who was adjudged to be the best stallion in the Show. Spark is the property of Mr. Walter Gilbey, to whose energy and perseverance the success of this Society is greatly due.

Turning next to the gentler sex, of the 21 yearlings foaled in 1882, Mr. Gillie's Cosy, a pretty bay of admirable proportions, carried off the first prize.

Among the two-year-old fillies there were several promising animals. The first prize was won by a fine powerful young mare, Sunflower, the property of Mr. G. Shaw.

There were only a dozen animals in the three-year-old filly class; but the prize was won by a lady of mark, viz., the Hon. E. Coke's Chance, which won a Royal first at Reading last summer, and carried everything before her at Islington, not only winning first prize in her class, but being declared the best mare or filly in the show.

The mares, like the stallions, were divided according to height.

In the unlimited class Mr. Garrett Taylor's Thursa won first honour, besides taking the ten-guinea cup as best mare in the two classes.

Nearly a score of serviceable geldings were exhibited, the prize being obtained by a dapple-grey belonging to Mr. W. Wynn, though he was run very close by several others.

"LIKE SHIPS UPON THE SEA"

MRS. FRANCES TROLLOPE'S New Story, illustrated by Sydney Hall, is continued on page 253.

CREMATION IN SIAM

THE Queen of Siam, whose remains, together with those of her daughter, a child of between two and three years of age, were recently cremated, was named Sunanda. She was the wife of the present King, who succeeded to the throne in 1868. It may be worthy of mention here that the Siamese Constitution possesses the peculiarity of having two Kings reigning simultaneously—the first is the actual monarch, the second is the nominal head of the army.

Our engraving of the cremation building is from a painting by Mrs. Henry Alabaster, of Bangkok, Siam. She thus describes the locale and the ceremony:—

"The hall in which the urns were placed was in the centre of the cremation building, under the high tower. It was of grand proportions, with four or five windows on either side, in Siamese fashion, slightly tapering towards the upper part. The hall was entered by a magnificent flight of steps on each side, on which, through day and night, were seen reclining princes and noblemen, in handsome and picturesque attire. The erection on which the urns containing the remains of her late Majesty the Queen and her daughter were placed was of an octagonal form, each stage diminishing in circumference, until it reached the height required—about 200 feet. The whole construction was covered with gold, silver, and green ornaments of infinite variety, golden Buddhas, gold and white umbrellas, with here and there a bunch of bright flowers—wax tapers dimly burning. The effect was extremely bright and glittering—almost like brilliants—handsome crimson and gold drapery being suspended to the noble columns surrounding it. The hall was richly carpeted, and hung with chandeliers, containing wax tapers for illuminating, and many others composed of flowers, white and gold—artificial, in imitation of the strongly-scented flowers so much used by the Siamese in decoration. Frequent religious services were held in the hall at the foot of the urns, when the whole hall was filled with priests, in bright new orange and yellow robes, sitting or kneeling, with shaven heads, holding yellow fans in their hands, and each also touching the orange-coloured band which communicated with the interior of the urns. At other times, all who wished entered and walked round the gorgeous construction with clasped hands, bent their heads to the ground in reverence and admiration, and the weird music or intonation of priests in adjoining apartments, added in no small degree to the general impressiveness."

"AT THE FOALS' STABLE"

MR. KOCH has in this picture given us a very interesting study of equine character. Each of these four young creatures is stamped with its own individuality. And the moment chosen for eliciting facial expression is a very happy one. Between the horse and the dog there is a special link of companionship. Some dogs are never happy except when they are in the stable, or barking round under the feet of the giant whom they love so well, but who, perhaps, in his secret heart sometimes thinks their perpetual attentions rather a nuisance. In Mr. Koch's picture, the quartet of foals have just discovered one of these noisy, troublesome, yet interesting creatures; and, stable-life being somewhat monotonous, they are, in their silent yet expressive way, carrying on a spirited flirtation with him.

"LITTLE SNOW-SHOES"

IN the colder parts of North America snow-shoes were formerly used by the Red Indians and by the fur-hunters as a convenient aid to locomotion during the winter, when for months together the ground is covered with a carpet of dry snow. In spite of railways, and coaches, and sleighs, snow-shoes are still thus employed, but they are also used by the inhabitants of Canadian towns for recreative purposes, and are extremely popular, as some of our illustrations recently showed, both with adults and children.

Our engraving, which represents a child in a snow-shoer's dress, is from a photograph taken from life by Notman and Sandham, of Montreal. The photograph has been copied in an oil painting, the property of Mr. F. R. Redpath, President of the Canadian Sugar Refinery, Montreal, to whom we are indebted for its use.

ONE WAY OF LEAVING VISITING CARDS AT THE CAPE

AMONGST plants whose leaves can be inscribed is the *Cactus cochinitifolius*—the cochineal plant. Any sharp point will trace on the bright green leaf a silver-like writing, which remains legible for years beyond the life of the tree.

Our sketch, which is by Lieutenant-Colonel H. G. Robley (Sutherland and Argyll Highlanders), is of a tree used for visitors' names in a garden at Cape Town. This plant is a native of Mexico, but is perfectly naturalised at the Cape. This particular tree is 14½ feet high, and was raised from a single leaf planted about nine years ago; it has an edible fruit, called in some parts of the world "nopals," evidently an abbreviation of the original Mexican name, "nupalnochezli." The "white prickly pear," as it is called in the colony, is very common in the Eastern Province. The Kaffirs and other natives consume large quantities of the fruit. About the Great Fish River and near Fort Beaufort there are perfect thickets of it. The leaves are found to be good food for ostriches, and in seasons of drought cattle have been kept alive upon these leaves; it is the least prickly of all the "cactus" genus, which is rather an extensive one. There are other plants whose leaves are even more fitted for inscriptive purposes, such as the *Fourcroya nobilis*, a grand, tall aloë-like plant, bearing aloft white and green flowers, which has its own point for pen or stylus; for instance, one in the garden "Maldivia," Jamestown Valley, St. Helena, has a leaf thus covered:—

"FOURCROYA LOQUITUR"

Paper-bearing mulberry tree,
Or Nile's papyrus, list to me,
While I the evidence adduce
Of higher calligraphic use.

That paper you produce is true;
My shiny leaf provides it too.
A pen's my point, and ink my juice,
Each ready for the writer's use.

Should you, my reader, wish to prove
The truth of what is said above,
Just take a point, inscribe your name,
And see how quick I'll show the same.

TANGIER

TANGIER, the principal northern seaport of Morocco, though only five days' journey by water from London, and only separated by a narrow channel from Gibraltar and Spain, is comparatively rarely visited by English travellers.

The town itself is, to be sure, neither so large nor so gorgeous as some of its Oriental sisters, but it possesses many quaint and

excellent specimens of Moorish architecture, and is inhabited by a very ancient and interesting race of people.

The surrounding country is fertile and picturesque, the climate is fine and equable, there are several comfortable hotels, and every opportunity is afforded to enjoy an out-of-door life, and to study the manners and customs of this remarkable race.

Steamers leave Gibraltar for Tangier three or four times a week, and if the weather be pleasant, the voyager will have a delightful passage, skirting the coast of Spain near the historic town of Taifa, with the African Pillars of Hercules in sight, then turning southwards, and making straight for the little bay, on the farther side of which lies Tangier, a mass of glistening white roofs, on the long slope of a low hill, fronting towards Mecca and the East. As seen from the sea the houses appear to stand one above the other, like steps of stairs.

After landing, and undergoing the ordeal of the Custom House, the traveller passes through an arched gateway, and climbs a narrow street, about ten feet broad, and guileless of foot pavement. This street is lined with little one-storey shops and booths, in each of which squats impassive a dignified and bearded Moor, while its upper part is used by the female sellers of bread, milk, and vegetables, who stand or sit, ranged on each side. It finally leads to the Soko, or market-place, which is just outside the walls.

In this thoroughfare is one of the principal mosques of the town, the great arched doorway of which opens on the main street, while overhead rises the graceful spire, with its beautiful panels of coloured tile-work, its flat turrets, and balustrade.

These little crooked streets of Tangier, though not over-clean, and in a certain sense monotonous, possess much that is worthy of attention. The arched doorways, the peeps into interior courts, the delicate shades of grey and white as the sun shines on the whitewashed walls, the rich red and brown trimmings round the doors—these, contrasted with the blue sky overhead, combine to make a picture not easily forgotten. Then there is plenty of colour in the animated part of the scene; figures dressed in homespun gowns of brown, undyed sheep's wool, mingled with rich embroidered vests and tunics of red, blue, and yellow.

The women of the lower classes in Tangier usually go veiled, but in the country districts they have less objection to being seen. When young they are often merry-looking and pretty, with fine white teeth. They almost all wear bracelets, and some of them immense earrings. They work very hard, carrying excessively heavy burdens, and hence they age early.

The winter climate of Tangier is very agreeable; the thermometer ranging during that season between 55° and 65° in the daytime (in the shade), and between 40° and 50° in the night. Most of the rain falls in the winter months, but it usually comes down in heavy showers during the night, and as a rule the sky is clear and the air dry. For serious invalids the east wind when it blows may be too bracing, but the moment the wind stops blowing, the sun asserts his power, and the weather resembles that of a specimen day from an English September.—Our engravings are from drawings by Mr. E. Baneroff.

NOTE.—We are requested to state by Major R. W. Stewart, R.E., that the photograph of King Cabocan and his suite, which we engraved last week, was taken by Major Stewart himself. Copies of this photograph were subsequently printed from the negative by Mr. Dufty. Hence our error in attributing the photograph to him.

THE MUMBLES LIFEBOAT DISASTER.—From information which has reached us from several sources, we have found that the engraving in our issue of February 24th, representing the gallant rescue of some drowning life-boat men at the Mumbles Head, is incorrect. The sketch from which the engraving was made was furnished to us by Mr. Town Councillor H. A. Chapman, of Swansea. It appears, however, from the local journals, from the report of the local Secretary of the National Lifeboat Institution, and from private information, that it was Artilleryman Hutchings who threw the rope by which the two life-boat men, Rosser and Thomas, were rescued; and that though Mrs. Wright and Miss Jessie Ace rendered every assistance to the half-drowned men when they were landed on the rocks, the two ladies were never in any such position as that depicted in our engraving. No one on the rock ran the least risk, though all acted with presence of mind and thoughtfulness, Hutchings having been especially ready, as a soldier should be. In fact, the adventure has been magnified by false reports to the dimensions of a heroic achievement worthy to rank with the exploit of Grace Darling. There was nothing heroic about it. But there was a very laudable display of coolness and readiness of resource. Having given by our engraving so wide a circulation to the myth (for the popular account of the adventure was nothing more), we have felt bound, in the interests of truth, to give it an equally public contradiction.



MR. GLADSTONE, accompanied by Mrs. and Miss Gladstone and his private secretary, the Hon. Mr. Lytton, left Paris on the 2nd inst., arriving at Charing Cross at 6 P.M. The Premier, who was heartily welcomed by the groups collected on the platform, looked well and sunburnt, and professes himself to be quite recovered. It is understood, however, that he is to avoid unnecessary exertion during the present Session. Before leaving Cannes, he thanked the authorities of the place for the courtesy and consideration with which he had been received there.

CONSIDERABLE INTEREST seems to be taken in the approaching contest for Mid-Cheshire, where Mr. Latham attacks for the third time that stronghold of Conservatives and Egertons, and much indignation has been expressed by the Liberals at the issue of a circular to Lord Egerton's tenants, enclosing a blank form for them to fill up, stating whether they will support the Hon. Alan Egerton or not.—At Wycombe Mr. Parker-Rhodes has retired from the field, and the contest lies between Colonel Gerard Smith, who has received commendatory letters from Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Bright, and the Conservative Major Carson. Col. Smith has been appointed a Groom-in-Waiting to the Queen, and if returned will become the Parliamentary Groom-in-Waiting, to avoid the necessity of a re-election. The poll for Wycombe will be on Saturday; that for Mid-Cheshire on the 14th.—The Newcastle and Gateshead Trades Council intend to raise a fund to enable a labour candidate to stand for the city at the first opportunity, provided such candidate is brought forward by the representatives of the various factories and workshops of the district.

A MOTION FOR A PETITION against the Parliamentary Oaths Bill was carried last week at a meeting of the Free Church Presbytery of Edinburgh by a majority of sixteen to seven; and notice of a similar motion has been given for the next meeting of the Established Presbytery. The Westminster Conservative Association have also protested against "the proposed special legislation initiated by Her Majesty's Government for the purpose of enabling Mr. Bradlaugh to sit in Parliament." Mr. Bright regards the question of oath-taking much as Lord Sherbrooke did a short time ago. "Nothing," he writes to a correspondent at Hebdon Bridge, "is more especially forbidden in the New Testament than oaths. Oaths and out-

taking have done more than any other thing to impair and destroy a regard for truth."

THE NATIONAL LIBERAL CLUB numbers now 3,050 members. It is intended to open it with a banquet, to which the Premier will be invited as its President.

IN THE CASE OF THE MANCHESTER SHIP CANAL the appeal from the Examiner's decision to the Select Committee on Standing Orders has been successful, and the Bill will therefore be proceeded with this Session, on the condition, however, that the part relating to the low-water Canal be *pro tempore* struck out. Over 300 petitions, measuring, as some one reckoned, several miles, were lodged, praying the Committee to dispense with the Standing Orders on this occasion. The cost of the works is estimated at 5,633,951*l.*, and they will be undertaken by a company with a share capital of 6,000,000*l.*

THE DANUBIAN CONFERENCE met again last week, when a Protocol, it is said, was finally approved and drawn up for signature. M. Barrère's propositions as to "The Mixed Commission" for the control of the river from the Iron Gates to Braila, were slightly modified by the exclusion from it of Austrian and Roumanian delegates from "The European Commission," as these two Powers would otherwise be doubly represented. The powers of the Commissions, according to the Central News, will be for fifteen years—the Vienna correspondent of the *Times* says twenty-one—with further prolongation of three years at a time if unopposed by any of the States represented. The complaints of Turkey as to the non-fulfilment of the agreements entered into at Berlin for the demolition of the Danubian fortresses will, it is rumoured, be quietly put aside. The Conference met again on Wednesday, when a proposal was to have been made by the British Plenipotentiaries which it was hoped would be acceptable to Russia, and enable the Conference to terminate its labours.

NOTWITHSTANDING the existence of severe distress in many districts, the state of Ireland shows a marked improvement. At the Spring Assizes at Drogheda, Meath, Longford, and other places, an hour or two has sufficed to dispose of the criminal charges. Even in Clare the number has diminished from 326 at this period last year to 113, and the offences have been also of a much less serious character. The attack upon Lord Ardilaun's bailiff, Flynn, and the alleged affray in Joyce's country with the police and some of the witnesses in the Maamtrasna murder case seem both to have been very slight affairs. Flynn, who was reported to have died, has quite recovered from his injuries.—From Swinford, Co. Mayo, it is announced that there are thirty cases of famine-fever in the poor house and 700 destitute persons on the relief list. The distress is said, indeed, to be almost as great as in 1847; and the people, not, perhaps, in this case, without show of reason, declare they would rather die than go into the workhouse. The R.C. Bishop of Raphoe charges the Government with pursuing a policy of extermination. The Chief Secretary, he says, must have counted largely on the credulity of his hearers when he pointed to the workhouse as a means of relief. "There are as many destitute in Glenties Union as would fill Glenties workhouse fourteen times over." The Bishop forgets that when the workhouse is full outdoor relief will be at once granted.—On the motion of Mr. Alfred Webb a resolution was carried unanimously at a meeting of the Dublin Town Council on Monday, to the effect that James Carey "was not a fit person to hold the office of Councillor," and "that the office of Councillor of and for the Trinity Ward be hereby declared by the Council to be void," and notice thereof affixed to some public place within the borough.—The Kilmainham prisoners are in good health, and, with their families, are well supported from outside. Funds for their defence, which in the case of those most deeply implicated will probably be an attempt to prove an *alibi*, are evidently abundant. The brief offered to and declined by Mr. A. M. Sullivan is said to have been accompanied by a fee of 500*l.*—The mysterious "No. 1" has not yet been arrested, but it is said the police can lay their hands on him at any moment. Indeed, all the fifty Invincibles are now accounted for, including those who have escaped out of the country.—Mr. Patrick Egan has left Dublin, it is supposed for Spain, taking with him, it is also supposed, the securities of the Land League.—The Parnell Testimonial Fund remains stationary at 8*l.*, and Mr. Parnell himself is about to visit America to explain the situation to the Irish in that country.—An unfortunate accident resulting in the death of a sergeant of the Scots Greys, named Gould, occurred on the 2nd inst., at Ballincollig, near Cork. Some suspicious personages having been seen about, Gould and two other men had been told off to keep a watch upon the officers' quarters. Lieutenant Torrens, the orderly officer of the night, had not, however, been apprised of this; and when Gould ran against him in the dark at once concluded that he was the object of an attack, and struck at Gould with the hand that held his revolver. The pistol went off, and Gould fell dying in the officer's arms.—Two returns, giving the number of applications under the Arrears Act to November 30th and December 31st, show a marvellous increase in the latter period. Up to the end of November the total number was only 36,394, comprising 52,556 holdings of an estimated value of 332,821*l.*; by the end of December it amounted to 86,085 for 135,385 holdings, to the amount of 866,401*l.* The largest number of applications come from Connaught and Ulster (31,022 and 30,203 respectively); the greatest increase in the last month was in Leinster.

COLONEL MAJENDIE'S REPORT on the three explosions at Glasgow early this year has been presented to the Home Office. He is quite satisfied that all were effected by the agency of a nitro-compound. At the Possil Bridge some portion of the explosive substance was recovered and found to be of a kind not licensed for use in this country, nor in the English market. The Town Council offer 500*l.* reward for such information as may lead to the apprehension of the malefactors.—Major Marindin has also issued his report on the disastrous railway accident through the fall of a bridge at Inverthine. The cause was the breaking of a cast-iron girder, and the Major recommends that in all bridges exceeding a span of twenty-five feet, the girders should be specially tested by the Company, and, if they display any kind of weakness, be at once replaced by wrought-iron.

TWO LITTLE RAILWAY SCHEMES at the present moment cause much alarm to the lovers of rural solitude—the scheme for a line from Braithwaite to Honister, through the midst of Borrowdale, and that for a railway through the heart of Epping Forest to High Beech. The former is half-acknowledged by the promoters to be little more than an expedient to make slate quarries profitable which at present do not pay; the latter has been vigorously opposed by the Hackney Microscopic and Natural History Society, the Essex Field Club, and other bodies, and a petition has been signed against it by some 4,000 amateur naturalists.

A DEPUTATION OF WORKING MEN east of London Bridge waited last week on the Bridge House Estates Committee with a very sensible request that the Tower Subway, which is at present too narrow for two persons to pass each other, should be enlarged, and thrown open free for pedestrian traffic. Even as matters stand, it is used by over 3,000 workmen on an average every day. If freed and enlarged, it would be the first instalment of better communications between the two sides of the river. The deputation was opposed to the idea of a bridge.

AT A MEETING on Tuesday of the City Commission of Sewers, it was resolved to bring the question of the ventilating shafts on the

Embankment before the President of the Board of Trade; and in the evening a deputation from the Westminster Board of Works waited on their Parliamentary representatives, Mr. W. H. Smith and Lord A. Percy, urging that the unsightly constructions be removed on the first available opportunity. The difficulties in the way are very great, as it is too late to bring in a private Bill this Session, and it is not the rule to repeal the clauses of a private Bill once passed by a public Act.

THE TRUSTEES OF THE BRITISH MUSEUM have opened negotiations with the French Government by which the latter will be allowed to buy at a fair price, the MSS. to which they can establish a claim. Lord Ashburnham, who utterly denies the right of the French to any of the MSS. procured from M. Libri, is prepared to sell the collection *en bloc* to the Museum, and the trustees will then be prepared to re-sell, after due investigation, some 200 MSS., from the Libri and Barrois collections. No formal application for a grant will be made to the Treasury until these preliminary negotiations have been settled.

THE STAFF OF THE NEW ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC has now been formed. The age for scholarships varies for different branches from seventeen, the youngest age for female candidates, to twenty-three, the highest age for men. The first preliminary examinations will be held on Wednesday in Easter week, and candidates for scholarships must send in their applications before March 19. No pupil will be taken on any terms for less than a year, or for any fragmentary course of study.

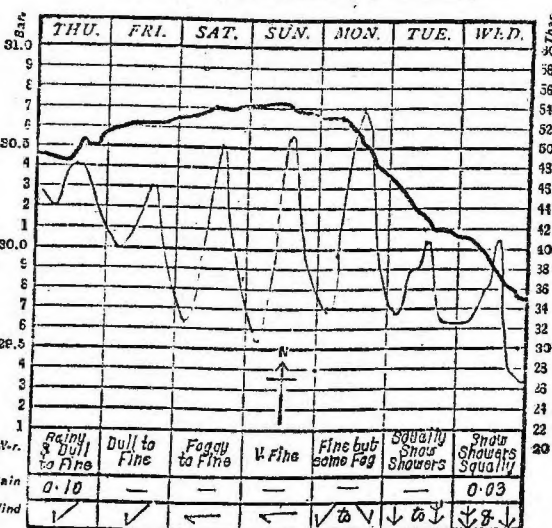
THE MINERS' CONFERENCE AT MANCHESTER closed with a resolution that it was for the welfare of both employers and employed that the hours of labour should be reduced to five days in the week, and that if possible this decision should be carried out on the third Saturday in April. It would be necessary, however, to take a ballot previously of all the counties represented, to see if the men would give this resolution effectual support, and to hold another Conference to ascertain the result. The second Conference will meet at Birmingham on April 10.—At a mass meeting on Sunday of Caledonian and North British Railway servants at Dundee, it was argued that the recent strike was not for higher wages, but for a general nine hours' working day, with extra pay for overtime and Sunday duty. A determination was expressed to keep up the agitation till they gained their point. A movement on the part of the Great Western employes to get back reductions made a year or two ago under the pretext of hard times has been met by the authorities in a friendly spirit, and most of the men's demands conceded without dispute.

A VIOLENT STORM, accompanied by a fall in the temperature which in the Shetlands went down to 27°, raged over all the Eastern coasts on Tuesday, causing high seas on the Scotch and Yorkshire coasts, and wrecking several fishing smacks and coasters. In Scotland and in Wales the hills were again covered with a slight fall of snow. Off Whitstable two dredgers were capsized and drowned, and at Canterbury a stack of chimneys twenty feet high fell from the Bishop of Dover's house in the cathedral precincts, fortunately without doing any other damage. At Dublin on Tuesday five sailors of the barque *Fanny* were brought before the magistrates for refusing to go to sea. When the wind began to rise they said it was the great storm which was to reach our coasts from America about the 10th.

WROTHAM PARK, the country residence of the Earl of Strafford, near Barnet, was totally destroyed by fire on Tuesday night, though the plate and pictures and most of the furniture were saved. The house, a handsome building in the classical Italian style of the last century, was built by Mr. Ware in 1754 for the unfortunate Admiral Byng.

THE LIST OF DEATHS for the last week includes the names of two veteran officers of the olden school—Captain Ward of Slingsby, Yorkshire, æt. 93, a midshipman on board the *Victory* at Trafalgar; and General G. Macdonald (æt. 99), a soldier of Waterloo. He entered the army in 1805, served with the troops in Sicily from 1806 to 1810, in Spain in 1812, in Canada during the war with the United States, and last of all at Waterloo, where he received three wounds. Mr. John Richard Green, the well-known author of a "Short History of the English People," died at Mentone on Wednesday at the early age of forty-five. Mr. Green was appointed by Dr. Tait successor to Professor Stubbs as Lambeth Librarian.

WEATHER CHART FOR THE WEEK FROM MARCH 1 TO MARCH 7 (INCLUSIVE).



EXPLANATION.—The thick line shows the variations in the height of the barometer during the past week ending Wednesday midnight. The fine line shows the shade temperature for the same interval, and gives the maximum and minimum readings for each day, with the (approximate) time at which they occurred. The information is furnished to us by the Meteorological Office.

REMARKS.—The first and greater part of this period was fine generally, the tail end bisterous, dull, and cold. The area of high pressure noticed last week continued to hold its position over the British Islands till Monday (5th inst.), when it began to give way, and barometrical readings became steadily lower from that date. At the commencement of the time the centre of the anti-cyclone was near the Irish Channel, and the barometer recovering from a slight fall, some rain, which fell early in the morning, ceased, and the day became fine. Throughout Friday, Saturday, and Sunday (2nd, 3rd, and 4th inst.) the mercury rose slowly, and the area of highest readings travelled from west to east. The weather during the first two days was fine generally, that of Saturday (3rd inst.) being very fine; and the prevailing winds were light from the eastward. With the advance of a depression from Scandinavia on Monday (5th inst.), pressure began to give way, and Tuesday (6th inst.) found very steep gradients on the eastern shores of the North Sea. Moderate northerly gales and very sharp squalls, with snow and soft hail, ensued, and the barometer still falling, very similar weather followed on Wednesday (7th inst.), but in a modified form. Temperature, which shows a large daily range, was much lower at the end of the week than at the commencement. The barometer was highest (30.73 inches) on Sunday (4th inst.); lowest (29.77 inches) on Wednesday (7th inst.); range, .96 inches. Temperature was highest (54°) on Monday (5th inst.); lowest (27°) on Wednesday (7th inst.); range, 27°. Rain fell on two days. Total amount, 0.13 inches. Greatest fall on any one day, 0.10 inches on Thursday (1st inst.).



A FRENCH VERSION OF "The Life of the Prince Consort" will shortly be brought out in Paris. The translator, Mr. A. Craven, has condensed Sir Theodore Martin's work into two volumes.

THE VIENNA ELECTRICAL EXHIBITION is being energetically promoted by the Austrian Imperial Family. Thus the Emperor intends to devote some elaborately decorated rooms to the purpose of testing the effects of incandescent lighting in connection with various styles of decoration.

THE NEW COMET, according to observations on the 1st inst. at Earl Crawford's Observatory at Dun Echt, possesses a fairly bright spectrum, the usual cometary bands being visible. It is attended by a faint, narrow tail, about a quarter of a degree in length. The comet is still moving from the sun, though still so near as to be only visible through a telescope.

THE CZARINA'S CORONATION MANTLE will be a marvel of heraldic embroidery. The ground will be solid cloth of gold, from which the Russian black eagle will stand out in relief, bearing on its chest the arms of Moscow; while the arms of the provinces of Kazan, Siberia, Poland, Astrakan, Georgia, and Finland, and of the Grand Duchies of Kiev, Vladimir, and Novgorod, will be emblazoned on the wings.

THE CROWN JEWELS OF FRANCE are to be sold next month, with the exception of some of historical interest. These are the Regent, or Pitt diamond, bought from Pitt, Governor of Madras, by Philippe d'Orléans in 1717—this is reckoned the second largest diamond in the world, being surpassed only by the Orloff stone in the Imperial sceptre of Russia; a sword, with a hilt of brilliants and magnificent goldsmith's work, made in 1824; a reliquary, mounted with brilliants set in a triangle, which dates from 1479; the Mazarin diamonds, presented by the Cardinal to Louis XIV.; the watch given to Louis XIV. by the Dey of Algiers; a ruby engraved with a chimera, which is said to be the largest engraved ruby known; and a "dragon and elephant of Denmark," marvellously wrought in enamel.

THE BRAINS OF JAMES II. OF ENGLAND have lately been discovered at the old Scotch College in Paris. The dethroned monarch took such interest in the Seminary that he bequeathed to it his brains, and the relic was religiously guarded until the time of the French Revolution, when the mob plundered both the College and the adjoining English nunnery. Since then the treasure has been missing; but now, during some drainage operations, a cavity has been found under the College chapel, containing both James II.'s brains in a leaden case, and the heart of the Duchess of Perth. Apparently the mob dug this cavity as a grave for the English nuns, whom they intended to massacre, and flung the relics in as worthless. They will now be quietly re-interred.

WHILE THE PROPOSED SALE OF THE ASHBURNHAM MANUSCRIPTS is causing so much controversy in England and France, great interest is being excited in Spain by the forthcoming sale of the collection of the late Duke of Ossuna. This collection, in addition to a large number of paintings and old furniture, comprises 35,000 volumes and 7,000 manuscripts. Amongst the latter are a copy of the journal of Christopher Columbus, the authentic text of the "Renaissance of the Rose" (for which the German Government has offered 4,000*l.*), a Dante and a Petrarch ornamented with admirable miniatures, and a very large number of Spanish and Italian literary works of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. The Spanish Press is urging the Sagasta Government to buy his collection, which is valued at 200,000*l.*, for the National Museum, and a proposition to this effect is to be made in the Cortes.

LONDON MORTALITY again slightly increased last week, and 1,590 deaths were registered against 1,554 during the previous seven days, a rise of 36, but being 238 below the average, and at the rate of 21.0 per 1,000. There were 7 deaths from small-pox (an increase of 1), 19 from measles (a decline of 9), 27 from scarlet fever (a fall of 9), 13 from diphtheria (a decrease of 8), 42 from whooping-cough (an increase of 14), 15 from enteric fever (a rise of 2), and 12 from diarrhoea and dysentery. Deaths referred to diseases of the respiratory organs numbered 388, a rise of 22, but being 130 below the average. Different forms of violence caused 55 deaths, 44 were the result of accident or negligence, among which were 25 from fractures and contusions, 5 from burns and scalds, 5 from drowning, and 11 cases of suicide, being nearly double the usual number. There were 2,773 births registered, against 2,759 during the previous week, being 1 below the average. The mean temperature of the air was 43 deg., and 2.8 deg. above the average.

ELECTRIC LIGHTING has developed a new form of crime across the Atlantic. A few weeks since an electric light wire came in contact with a telephone wire, extinguishing the light provided by the former, and destroying two telephone instruments, besides injuring the switch-board in the Exchange Room. On examination the two wires were found to have been tied together with an old woollen scarf, and the next day a man was arrested for maliciously attempting to do injury by bringing these wires into contact. Another curious incident of short circuiting is also told by the *American Architect*. Certain are lights in a large store suddenly failed without any apparent cause, and a search being made, a rat was found standing on one of the conductors, with a paw outstretched towards the other. The animal must have first jumped upon the lower conductor, and in attempting to climb to the upper received the whole current of the dynamo-machine, which not only instantly killed him, but stiffened him in the attitude in which he received the fatal shock, so that his body continued to act as a conductor until it was found.

THE SHIPWRECKED FISHERMEN AND MARINERS' SOCIETY.—At the last periodical meeting of the General Committee of Management of this Institution, the usual half-yearly extra issues of charitable relief for the most necessitous dependents of deceased mariners, &c., were formally sanctioned to 618 widows and 967 orphans. Approval was also given to the allotment of the Society's Special Marine Aneroid Barometers (as placed at the Committee's disposal, through the philanthropic gifts of various private and public donors, "To help fishermen to save their own lives, and encourage them in saving the lives of others"), in six individual instances, and to 47 fishing-stations, to meet pressing local needs; while the Silver Medal of the Institution was awarded in fourteen cases of exceptionally heroic exertions, at great personal risk on the part of master mariners or their crews, in rescuing life from shipwrecks on the high seas during the more recent gales. The statistics of the Society's work and operations for the past year, 1882, carried out at home, abroad, and in the colonies, through its 1,200 honorary agencies, showed that urgent aid and relief had been extended to a total of 13,145 shipwrecked persons, and widows or orphans, with other variously distressed sufferers amongst the seafaring classes. In these figures were comprised a more than ordinarily large number of sad claims from Ireland, in addition to which the Society's local chief representative and honorary agent-general (Mr. Thomas F. Brady, Her Majesty's Inspector of Irish Fisheries), on their behalf, specially reported the whole maritime community as being without exception conspicuous for their complete holding aloof from all participation in the unfortunate course of events in that country.



THE SILVER WEDDING OF THE IMPERIAL PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF GERMANY—THE ARTISTS' PROCESSION PASSING BEFORE THE ROYAL PARTY
FROM SKETCHES BY OUR SPECIAL ARTISTS



CONTINENTAL politics in general are just now comparatively uneventful. Even FRANCE has subsided into temporary content with her new Ministry, and seems willing to let M. Ferry have his own way for the present, so as to ensure a brief period of peace for the country. Thus, the Government has come off victorious from several awkward debates not only in the Chamber but in the Senate, and scored a decided triumph on the subject of the Revision of the Constitution, which little more than a year ago brought M. Gambetta to the ground. While acknowledging the eventual necessity of revision, M. Ferry pointed out that the present time was hardly propitious, and begged for the postponement of the question for two years' time—i.e., till just before the general elections of 1885—when it would be easier to come to an arrangement with the Senate. Under the present system of short-lived French Cabinets, it does not seem very likely that two years hence M. Ferry will be in office to fulfil his promises; but the Deputies were, nevertheless, convinced by his arguments, and, refusing to listen even to M. Clémenceau's entreaties, gave the Ministry a majority of some 150. As the Orleanist excitement has almost worn itself out, save for a feeble outburst in the Senate, where the Monarchists revenged themselves by attacking the unlucky War Minister, the Cabinet has now leisure to consider some much-needed home reforms, such as the Judicial Reform Bill, which has perplexed most of its predecessors, and is once more to be submitted to the Chamber in a new form. The Orleans Princes, by the way, have taken very quietly to their new positions, and the Duc de Chartres intends to occupy his enforced leisure by a long Eastern tour.

Indeed, France has this week taken far more interest in the action of England than in any home affairs proper. The extradition of Byrne and Walsh, the dogging of Irish Members in Paris by both French and English police, and, in particular, Mr. Gladstone's visit, have brought forth floods of eloquence and criticism from the Press, and it is curious to note that Frenchmen are so anxious to repay England for having sheltered the Communists that not one single Conservative journal advocates giving up the two Irishmen. The Socialists, indeed, have held an indignation meeting to protest against the arrest of these refugees, but under Mlle. Louise Michel's direction the meeting speedily forgot Ireland, and devoted itself to the abuse of the Home Government. As to Mr. Gladstone, the simple meeting of the French and English Premiers at Lord Lyons' dinner has been magnified in every way, and most elaborate accounts have been published of Mr. Gladstone's declarations concerning Egyptian affairs. Now, it is plain that Mr. Gladstone spoke most cautiously on so delicate a subject, and, while laying stress on the friendly relations between the two Governments, and hinting that England would thwart France as little as possible, chiefly conversed on less burning questions. The two Premiers did not meet again, and yet the French Press are already exulting over the change wrought by French influence in Mr. Gladstone's ideas, as shown by his recent speech in the House on Egypt. Even the sensible *Temps* points to the modifications caused by Mr. Gladstone's recent interviews with French statesmen, so that the Cabinet has found it necessary to issue a semi-official note denying both that the Egyptian question was discussed during Mr. Gladstone's stay, and that negotiations have been resumed with England. "However great," it continues, "may be the desire of France to arrive at a satisfactory arrangement, it rests with England to take the initiative which has always appertained to her on this question."

PARIS has been highly interested in a new opera, by M. Saint-Saëns, *Henry VIII.*, which takes some marvellous liberties with history, but is as great a success as attractive music, excellent singing, and the most gorgeous *mise-en-scène* can make it. Scotch themes are largely used for the music, and M. Lassalle is a fine representative of "bluff King Hal." Though now in the more solemn portion of Lent, this week has teemed with theatrical novelties, chief amongst these being a merry farce, *Pau Nerve*, at the Palais Royal, and a revival of M. Emile Augier's clever comedy, *Les Effrontés*, at the Français. Like the Paris Carnival, the Washerwomen's *fête* at the Mi-Carême, last week, was a very half-hearted affair. There has been another sensational trial, "l'affaire Polignac," in which a young man claiming to be Prince Polignac's son was tried for setting fire to his father's rooms to attract attention to his grievances. As usual with French juries, sentiment carried the day, and the offender was acquitted.

The Silver Wedding festivities in GERMANY have closed by a grand dinner and ball, given to the German Imperial Family by the British Ambassador, and a banquet and concert at the Palace. The various guests have now gone, and the Prince of Wales, before leaving, was appointed a Prussian Field Marshal by the Emperor. The Prince is stated to be highly gratified with his new dignity, and appeared in his new uniform at the Imperial banquet on Sunday; while, in connection with another military honour, his appointment to the Blücher Hussars, he is having his portrait painted by Herr von Angeli, to hang in their mess-room, and intends to present his regiment with fur dolmans. Further, he proposes to attend the German military manoeuvres this autumn. Meanwhile, military circles are much interested in the resignation of the War Minister, Gen. Von Kameke, who for some time has differed considerably from the Emperor and his chief advisers on military questions. Emperor William was very sorry to part with a Minister who had so ably taken up the work of the re-organiser of the Prussian army—Von Roon; but General Von Kameke intends to retire into private life, and General Bronsart von Schellendorf succeeds him. Other topics are the reported fresh negotiations with the Duke of Cumberland, by which the Government offers the Duke a handsome indemnity and the right of succession to the Duchy of Brunswick, which would be raised to the rank of Grand Duchy; and the conclusion of the arrangements for admitting Hamburg into the Zollverein. For this the necessary alterations will cost five and a-half millions, will occupy five years, and entail the removal of 15,000 persons.

Economy being the order of the day in EGYPT all the various Government departments have been called upon to cut down their expenditure about five per cent., and the Khédive has also agreed to reduce the grant for his personal establishment. This is owing to the necessity of the Egyptian Government for finding sufficient money to pay the claims of the Indemnity Commission, which must come out of the revenue set aside for administrative purposes. This measure is highly unpopular, and will weigh heavily on the public service. Meanwhile, the Commission is working hard, and has settled over a hundred minor claims, giving priority to those claims concerning buildings in the hope of at once providing the necessary work for mechanics. However, so great a feeling of uncertainty prevails throughout the country that owners are by no means inclined to rebuild or to enter upon any undertakings while still doubting the duration of the English occupation. Thus the petition for a permanent occupation is being widely signed, and the suggestion is said to be very popular amongst the natives; though, on the other hand, a demonstration of a very opposite character was recently made at a banquet given by the Cairo Prefect of Police to the British

authorities. There a native colonel publicly drank to "the deliverance of our country, and to the time when the foreigner shall have disappeared from Egyptian territory;" and, on being ordered out of the house, was enthusiastically supported by the natives outside. As regards the new police force, it will be necessary to have an English inspector in each province responsible for the maintenance of order. Meanwhile some difficulty is found in choosing suitable native officers for the new army, as at present the former are on far too familiar terms with their men.

Like her neighbours, SPAIN is now experiencing Socialist troubles, and the recent discoveries of the secret societies and the anarchist disturbances in Andalusia have caused great alarm. The head of the whole affair is the "Black Hand Society," which musters nearly 50,000 members, and is organised widely all over the country, where in many districts the distress has lately been so great that the peasants are driven to despair, and are ready to join any association in hopes of redress. For five years there has been drought in Andalusia; while the adulteration practised by the sherry manufacturers has brought their products into bad repute, so that work has been scarce and wages low, reducing many to complete starvation. The usual cheerful Socialist programme is set forth by the Black Hand, which considers rich people beyond the pale of the law, and permits all means to destroy the obnoxious aristocrats, "not excepting fire, steel, and even calumny." After the style of all these associations, members are bound to commit any murder decided by the "popular tribunal," and must consider the interests of the Society before their own families. For some time secret societies of all kinds, chiefly inspired by the Internationale, have been rife throughout Spain, but more particularly in the south, and the authorities have paid little attention to their proceedings. Roused at last, however, by recent outrages, the Government is acting promptly and firmly, numerous arrests have been made, and the prisoners will be brought to trial at once.

The most stirring news of the week comes from INDIA, where the decision of the Government to persist in the obnoxious Native Magistracy Bill has created unparalleled excitement not only in civil but in military circles. Indeed the opposition from the army is stated to be most vigorous, and one officer declares that it would be impossible to control the men should a comrade be sentenced by a native judge. Such excitement, according to the *Times* correspondent, has never been seen since the time of the Mutiny, while though the natives as a body naturally approve the measure, some of the more far-seeing acknowledge that it may do infinite harm by reviving race antagonism. A most enthusiastic opposition meeting has been held at Calcutta, and so great was the interest taken that business was entirely suspended to enable people to attend. Accounts of similar demonstrations also come daily from all parts. The Bill, commonly called the "Ilbert Bill," was to be formally brought forward yesterday (Friday), but though the subject will be debated no further step will be taken till November, when it is declared that the Government will insist on the measure being passed. Though Mr. Ilbert has also introduced his important Bengal Tenancy Bill, dealing with the rent laws, every other subject has been put into the shade by the Magistracy measure, which it is declared is but the first step in a course of legislation which will ultimately make the position of Europeans in any part of India perfectly unbearable.

The extradition of Irish offenders is being as warmly discussed in the UNITED STATES as here, and the action of the British Government respecting Sheridan is eagerly awaited. Until the depositions arrive next week, no definitive step can be taken, although the British Minister has made the customary formal application for Sheridan's extradition. Meanwhile Sheridan's counsel declare that in the present instance England has no case under the Treaty, and that they will be able to contest every step, while the Irish journals have established a fund for his defence. The Irish Democrats have also taken the opportunity to celebrate Robert Emmett's birthday by an enthusiastic meeting, at which one speaker—formerly a State Senator—coolly declared that it was the duty of Irishmen in America to bring about a war with England as soon as possible. The Canadian Fisheries could be used as a *casus belli* at any time.

Home affairs proper chiefly relate to finance. Thus the Tariff Bill has finally passed Congress with the result of giving wide dissatisfaction, many iron and steel manufacturers and wool dealers asserting that it will ruin their business, while workmen foresee that their wages will be lowered, and threaten strikes. The Bill repeals a large portion of the inland taxes, and will reduce the revenue by some 15,000,000. Congress has now closed till December, and it is evident that Transatlantic Parliaments suffer as much from a block of public business as their European counterparts, considering that out of nearly 11,000 Bills introduced during the late Session only 163 became law. The floods continue very severe, and the Mississippi has further inundated the low-lying lands, causing great damage. Shawneetown, in Illinois, has been completely devastated, and many Kentucky villages have shared the same fate.

OF MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS, RUSSIA is completely absorbed in the preparations for the coming coronation, which will cost over a million sterling. Strict precautions are already being taken at Moscow, where, besides increasing the police force and forming a special Imperial Body Guard from the pupils of the military academies, a clean sweep will be made of all suspected persons. The official invitations have been duly sent out, but it is very unlikely that either the German or Austrian heirs to the Throne will be present, nor probably the Prince of Wales, although the Duke of Edinburgh will attend.—Pope Leo is somewhat emerging from his retirement in ITALY, as on Saturday, the fifth anniversary of his coronation, he publicly celebrated Mass in the Sistine Chapel, anybody being admitted without tickets for the first time since 1870. His speeches to the usual congratulatory deputations, however, showed little change of opinion. A marble memorial tablet has been placed on the house in Rome occupied by Samuel Morse, the telegraph inventor.—In AUSTRIA solemn commemorations of Herr Wagner have been held in Vienna, but at one of these demonstrations—a students' meeting—the speakers injudiciously wandered from lauding Wagner to abusing the Jews, and the police had to interfere.—TURKEY is very much perplexed respecting the Mussulman refugees from Bulgaria and Roumania. The Bulgarian Government consider that the refugees have lost all right to their property in the Principality, owing to their absence having lasted over three years, and ROUMANIA is also treating the Mussulmans in very arbitrary style. Turkey accordingly finds herself obliged to provide for the refugees.—The Pondos are causing fresh trouble in SOUTH AFRICA, and threaten collusion with the Basutos, so that the Europeans are preparing to leave the district. Cetewayo is quiet enough, and is building three military kraals.

THE PLAN OF ADMITTING PAYING PATIENTS at St. Thomas's Hospital has proved most successful in every way; so that, should the demand continue, another ward may probably be opened for this purpose at the end of this year, as the applicants have hitherto exceeded the accommodation. Last year 371 patients were treated in St. Thomas's Home, the majority coming from London and the neighbourhood, and belonging to the class for which the Home was primarily intended—i.e., those living in chambers or lodgings, and those arriving from abroad in ill-health.



THE Queen has been staying in town for a few days this week to hold the first Drawing-Room of the season. Her Majesty on Saturday held a Council at Windsor Castle, at which the Duke of Albany, Earls Granville and Sydney, Lord Carlingford, and Messrs. Gladstone and Dodson were present, and the Queen "pricked" the Sheriffs for England and Wales. Afterwards Her Majesty gave audiences to several of the Ministers, and received Lord Kensington, who presented the Address from the House of Commons in reply to the Royal Speech. In the evening Lord Rowton and several other guests joined the Royal party at dinner. Next morning the Queen and the Royal Family attended Divine Service in the Private Chapel, when Canon Rowsell preached, and in the evening Her Majesty received Major-General Du Plat on his return from the Silver Wedding Festivities at Berlin. The Queen and Princess Beatrice came up to Buckingham Palace on Monday morning, and in the afternoon called on the Duchess of Cambridge, while in the evening the Princess of Wales, the Duke of Cambridge, and the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge dined with Her Majesty and the Princess. On Tuesday the Queen held a Drawing-Room, which was attended by the Princess of Wales, the Princesses Christian and Beatrice, and the Duke of Albany. Her Majesty wore black moiré antique and satin, trimmed with ostrich feathers and jet, and the usual white tulle cap surmounted by a diamond coronet; the Princess of Wales had a dark green velvet train over a pale green and gold brocade petticoat, trimmed with lace and shaded carnations; Princess Christian was dressed in brown brocade velvet over old-gold satin, trimmed with silver fox fur; and the Princess Beatrice's toilette was composed of Pompadour and salmon satin, trimmed with roses and lace. In the evening Princess Beatrice and the Duke of Albany went to the Princess's Theatre. The Queen and the Princess Beatrice returned to Windsor on Wednesday, but come up to town again next week to hold another Drawing-Room on Tuesday. They go to Osborne for Easter, and will probably leave about the 22nd inst.

The Prince of Wales is expected home to-day (Saturday) in time to keep the twentieth anniversary of his marriage, which is to be celebrated by a children's party to-night at Marlborough House. Before leaving Germany the Prince paid a short visit to Neu Strelitz to see the Grand Duke and Duchess of Mecklenburg-Strelitz. On Sunday the Prince went to the English Church with the Crown Prince and Princess, and on Monday visited the Zoological Gardens, the chief prison, and inspected the Fire Brigade, which turned out to manoeuvre, subsequently dining with the Crown Prince and Princess, and going with the Court to the opera. He left Berlin on Wednesday, and was to spend two days at Brussels on his way home. The Prince will preside at the dinner to be given to Lord Alcester by the Marlborough Club next Wednesday, and at a similar banquet given by the United Service Club on Saturday. On May 2nd he will lay the Memorial Stone of the Indian Institute at Oxford. The Princess of Wales returned to Sandringham after attending the Drawing-Room on Tuesday. On Sunday the Princess with her three daughters attended Divine Service at the church of St. Mary Magdalene in the Park; the Rev. F. E. Hervey, M.A., Rector of Sandringham, preached.

The Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh visited Stuttgart on their way to Darmstadt, whence they will return to England about the 11th inst. The Duke and Duchess of Connaught, who are still at Mentone, have received visits from the Grand Duke of Mecklenburg, the Comte and Comtesse de Paris, the Duc de Chartres, and the Comte de Bardi, who remained to lunch. On Monday the Duke and Duchess drove to Monte Carlo, and were present at a concert in the theatre of the Casino, afterwards visiting the play rooms and returning to Mentone. The Duke resumes his command at Aldershot on the 1st prox. The Duchess of Albany and her baby continue to make satisfactory progress. The Duke was present in the House of Commons on Monday night on the return of Mr. Gladstone.



THREE MONTHS EXACTLY AFTER THE DEATH OF DR. TAIT, the See of Canterbury has been filled once more, *de jure* and *de facto*, by the formal confirmation of Dr. Benson in the Church of St. Mary-le-Bow (Sancta Maria de Arcubus), Cheapside. The Royal Commissioners present were the Bishop of London and the Bishops of Winchester, Worcester, Exeter, Ely, Rochester, and Lichfield. Morning prayers were read by the Rector, Mr. Vine, and after service the Commissioners took their seats at a table in the chancel in front of the altar. The letters patent were then presented by Dr. Tristram, as Proctor and Counsel for the Dean and Chapter, and read aloud by Mr. Hassard, the Principal Registrar of the Province, after which Dr. Deane, the Vicar-General, "humbly prayed their lordships to take upon them the duty of Confirmation." The new Archbishop now advanced to the south of the table, facing the Commissioners, and, after the Apparitor-General had twice called in vain for any opposers, took the oath of allegiance and the statutory declaration against simony, and received from the First Commissioner "the definitive sentence in writing," committing to his charge the "care, government, and administration of the spiritualities of the said Archbishopric." Dr. Jackson then pronounced the benediction, and the Archbishop, Bishops, and legal dignitaries returned in procession to the vestry-room to the strains of the Grand March in *Athalie*. The usual examination of the Crypt was made the afternoon before by the Rector of the church, accompanied by the Vicar-General, the Registrar, and the Apparitor-General. Much interest was taken in the ceremony, and the church was crowded to excess with a congregation chiefly composed of laymen, among whom were several Members of Parliament.

AN INTERESTING MEETING in aid of Bishop Thornton's Fund for Mission Work in the Diocese of Ballarat was held on Tuesday at the Mansion House under the presidency of the Lord Mayor. The Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge had offered the Bishop 2,000*l.* if he could raise 8,000*l.* himself. He had already collected 5,000*l.*, and hoped the remaining 3,000*l.* would be secured in time. The fund will be administered by an elective Council, chiefly laymen.

THE LARGEST REREDOS, perhaps, built in England since the Reformation has just been presented to the Church of St. Clement, Bournemouth. It is designed as a memorial to Lieutenant Christy, of the 8th Hussars, killed two years ago in India at a polo match.—The fine memorial window to Dean Alford at Canterbury, after undergoing for six weeks a process of restoring at the hands of Messrs. Clayton and Bell, has this week been replaced in its old position in the south transept.

THE BISHOP OF NEWCASTLE took the chair last Saturday at a County Conference in favour of Early Closing. Resolutions were passed advocating the introduction of a Bill for Newcastle and Northumberland, and requesting Mr. Burt, M.P., and other members for the district to support it.—At Canterbury the Rev. W. Barker, Chaplain to the Queen, has been addressing a large meeting presided over by the Dean in favour of local option. A motion in accordance with the address was subsequently carried unanimously. At Plymouth Canon Wilberforce has been passionately defending himself against the two clergymen who presumed to call him heretical for saying that anything created by God was a curse. Give him, he exclaimed, a drop of fermented wine made by God, and he would drink it on the spot. The Canon's eloquence has caused some 3,000 persons to join the Blue Ribbon ranks within a week.—The strongest measure, perhaps, of all, however, is that contemplated by the Baptists at the next May Meetings, when a motion will be brought forward calling on all members who hold excise licenses to throw them up and abandon the liquor traffic without delay.

CARDINAL M'CABE, who had a slight relapse in consequence of the change in the weather, is again much better. It is rumoured in ecclesiastical circles that his private secretary, Dr. Tynan, a distinguished scholar and theologian, who was also secretary to Cardinal Cullen, may possibly be named assistant prelate to his Eminence.

THE COUNCIL OF STATE OF GENEVA have considered and rejected the appeal of Miss Booth and Miss Charlesworth, in conformity, so they state, with the power given them by Article V. of the law of February 9, 1844. In a reply to the Federal Council they affirm that the Genevan authorities have acted strictly according to their rights, and have in no way exceeded them.—Mr. Booth and Mr. Charlesworth have had "a glorious reconciliation," and the father has now given his daughter up to the Army, and to the care of Miss Booth. At a meeting at Sheffield, in the Albert Hall, the General read a telegram from his son to the effect that Miss Charlesworth had returned from the Continent, and was now in their house with her father's consent. "Not one soldier lost," so the telegram concluded, "in Paris or Geneva through the opposition." The General denied that "the book" about which so much had been said was a secret book at all, and ridiculed the idea of his running away with Salvation Army funds.—From the Cape we learn that the Salvationists have just held their first meeting—a "somewhat noisy one"—at Capetown.

THE SYNOD OF THE CHURCH OF SOUTH AFRICA has determined to retain the proviso in their Constitution claiming independence of Privy Council judgments.



WAGNER AND HANSLICK.—Herr Eduard Hanslick, the eminent critic of the Vienna *Neue Freie Presse*, long the staunchest adversary, not so much of Wagner himself as of Wagner's art theories, has paid a graceful tribute to the deceased master, and this without belying his own cherished belief, or detracting one inch from the critical objections he has invariably taken to Wagner's angry polemics, to Wagner's depreciation of the labours of some of his most distinguished precursors, or, in a great measure, to the probable results of Wagner's theories as exemplified in Wagner's own art-practice. "While bowing" to the unswerving consistency with which Wagner strove to enforce the principles of the "new" art, which was his own absolute creation, Hanslick disclaims any notion of enlisting under its banners, or for one instant becoming disloyal to the "old" art of Mozart, Beethoven, and Weber. That, he admits, as all sane persons versed in the matter must do, must outlast all else—live, in short, until music lives no more. "If," says the Viennese critic, "it be a sign of power to open up fresh paths that, beyond the immediate æsthetic impression, challenge questions of principle, Wagner, it must be admitted, stands at the head of motive forces in the progress of existing art." "Motive" is an excellent phrase, but its tendency may as likely be deleterious as beneficial to art in the long run. With respect to Wagner's motive force there are many who credit it for good, and a still greater number who hold a directly opposite opinion. Hanslick, however, gives Wagner probably more or less his just due when he adds that among other notable deeds, "he shook up opera, with the theoretical and practical questions relating to it, out of a state of easy-going stagnation." That such was the fixed idea of the Bay-reuth master is doubtless true; but what are the results up to the present time? Putting Wagner's own works aside, if only as a matter of courteous and fair consideration, one may look in vain for anything of recent growth that can be traced to implicit confidence in a sound doctrine, much less to a successful exemplification of it. Germany seems just now barren in art-productivity, so far as music is concerned. Italy is little better off, since Verdi seems to have laid aside his pen (temporarily, it is to be hoped); we hear little of Ponchielli, whose operas do not seem to cross many seas; and all we have to contemplate is Arrigo Boito, with his one opera, *Mefistofele*, which, thanks to Madame Christine Nilsson, obtained a certain degree of success when Mr. Mapleson produced it at Her Majesty's Theatre; but which—until we get another and a better from the same hand, inspired by a subject more congenial to the Italian mind than such an absurd *pasticcio* as that made out of the first and second parts of Goethe's magnificent poetic creation, and until the French *Faust* of Gounod has lost the sympathy of the ladies and gentlemen who make up the quota of what may without impropriety be styled the "sentimental public," and ceases to excite the interest of fashionable opera-goers—has small chance of winning a permanent standing, either in England or in France. In the last-named country what can be boasted of at the actual period? Comparatively nothing; unless we accept "opéra bouffe."—The recent productions at the "Grand Opéra" have chiefly come from old and experienced hands, *Le Tribut de Zamora*, for example, by the composer of *Faust* and *The Redemption*, *Francesca de Rimini*, by the composer of *Mignn* and *Hamlet*. In revenge there are operatic composers who strive to imitate Wagner, with what success those best can say who have heard their efforts. In England, too (as in Russia and elsewhere), there are strong signs of the Wagnerian influence; but it is of little avail; because to follow in the footsteps of such a man as the author of *Tristan* and the *Ring des Nibelungen* requires a complex brain like his, which counts, and must ever count, for nothing short of a phenomenon. Independently of this consideration, to compose an opera in the Wagnerian style, the musician (like Boito, for instance) must invent his own plot and write his own libretto—apart from which such an attempt must be wholly unfruitful. Herr Hanslick, without entering precisely into these questions, almost hints at them, in saying that the true meaning of the often miscomprehended term "opposition," with reference to Wagner, "was no factious opposition to Wagner himself, but to his disciples," whose intolerance, taking into account their comparative insignificance, created seeming, and often openly declared enemies, in whose breasts no real enmity dwelt. In saying that to undervalue the enormous influence exercised by the deceased master, whatever one's inability to understand the theories upon which his works are built, to be blind to that

which is incontrovertibly great and genial in them (whatever their moral tendency), "can be recorded of very few," and would, in fact, be a proof of obstinate unwillingness to look at the fair side of any art-achievement. Herr Hanslick is fully justified in his conclusions. All remaining to be proved is the future influence that the example inculcated by the Wagnerian doctrines must ultimately exercise.



THE TURF.—Looking back for a moment to the racing at Manchester at the end of last week, it may be noted that Mr. Leopold de Rothschild's Thornhill followed up his recent successes, and, carrying 13 st., beat Sugar Plum (11 st. 1 lb.) and Albert Cecil (10 st. 6 lb.) and two others in the big Steeplechase over three miles and a quarter of country. Sugar Plum started first favourite at evens. Albert Cecil took the Trafford Park Steeplechase, and Beatus scored a couple of hurdle races.—Croydon, beloved of Cockneys and Irishmen, got through its two days before the snow and frost put an end to all cross-country work probably for the rest of the week, including the Military Meeting at Sandown on the Friday and Saturday. The Grand International Hurdle Race brought a round dozen to the post, and Mohican was made favourite with Mr. H. Beasley in the saddle, Prudhomme being next in demand. The Irish horse, however, could only get second, the winner turning up in Chichester, who had done a good thing at home, but was not fancied by the public. Azuline was of too high a class to give her seven opponents much chance in the Qualifying Steeplechase; but Pixie upset the favourite in the Selling Hunters Hurdle Race. The United Kingdom Steeplechase only produced a field of four, and Magna Charta, starting as first favourite, beat Albert Cecil, Ignition, and Thornfield.—With the exception of Zitella coming forward for the Grand National, there are no marked changes in the market as to future events since our last Notes, and now that real winter seems to have come upon us almost on the eve of the commencement of the flat-racing season, training operations will be greatly interfered with.—By the way, it is contemplated to lay out a cricket ground at Sandown Park, and it is said that tutors and parents are in favour of the Eton and Harrow match being played there. There is also to be a cinder track, and other arrangements for sports and pastimes generally. It seems that enclosed grounds for all kinds of sport is to be the order of the day; and at the present moment two companies are proposing to supply "composite" grounds to Leeds, while similar movements are on foot in other places.

FOOTBALL.—The Association Cup contest has now reached its penultimate stage. Notts County has beaten Aston Villa (Birmingham), and the Old Etonians have beaten Hendon. And now the Old Etonians have to play the Notts County at the Oval on the 17th or 19th; and at Birmingham the Blackburn Olympic have to play the Old Carthusians, and the winners of these games will play the final for the Cup on the 31st.—The final game in the London Association Cup contest has been won by Upton Park, who beat the Old Foresters.—The thirteenth International Rugby match between England and Scotland was played at Edinburgh on Saturday last, and resulted in the victory of England, which has now won five matches to the three of Scotland.—St. Bartholomew's, by beating St. George's, has won the International Hospital Challenge Cup.—In an Association game at Nottingham Surrey could make but a poor fight against Notts County; and at Perry Parr Oxford University and Aston Villa have played a draw.—In a Rugby game at Richmond, Surrey has beaten the Midland Counties.—We are glad to note that the Committee of the Rugby Union has decided that leather-capped screws in the soles of boots are an infringement of Law 57.

AQUATICS.—Both the University crews are now at Putney, and have had but miserable weather for their practice. The Cambridge men are a fine lot, and many like their rowing, but it is still 2 to 1 on Oxford as far as wagering is concerned. The papers are full of the cries of the critics as to sliding, reaching, hanging, recovery, feathering, and so forth, and members of the crews are abused for these various faults as if they were guilty of some terrible crimes, or, at least, of moral delinquencies. The Cambridge have had plenty of boats built for them, but it is not unlikely they will fall back on the old craft, adapted for a heavy crew, in which the revived Leanders won the Grand Challenge at Henley in 1875.—At Cambridge, the result of the Second and Third Division racing, which concluded on Saturday last, is that Trinity Hall is at the head of the Second, and Jesus of the First.

LACROSSE.—London and Dulwich have met, for the first time this season, at Willesden Green, and the result of a good match was four games to one in favour of the former.

GOLF.—The annual golf match between the old Universities, played at Wimbledon, has been won by Oxford by two holes.—Golf seems to have established itself in the neighbourhood of Cork, so that Fenians may now turn their weapons into "clubs."

PIGEON SHOOTING.—On Wednesday last the second reading of Mr. Anderson's "Cruelty to Animals" Bill was carried by a large majority. It is ostensibly for the putting down pigeon-shooting from traps, but in reality it will be found to cover a much wider field, and rightly or wrongly its passing in its present form or, indeed, in any form, will be a blow to "sport," and doubtless it is intended as such. It marks the commencement of a definite crusade against a certain class of amusements in which, generally speaking, only the wealthy can indulge.

COURSING.—The "enclosed" meeting at Kempton Park last week was another success, and once more illustrated the fact that "enclosed" coursing is far less deadly work for hares than that they are subjected to in the open. There were 127 courses at the meeting, and only 41 hares were killed, whereas at the recent Waterloo Meeting 77 were killed out of 104.—At the South Lancashire Open Meeting Mr. Bothwell's Reamer beat Mr. Reilly's Enone in the deciding course for the Scarisbrick Champion Cup for All Ages; and the Southport Stakes were won by Mr. Skinner's St. John.

ANGLING.—At a meeting of London and District Angling Societies, held under the auspices of the Thames Angling Preservation Society, the new by-laws of the Thames Conservancy were strongly condemned, as contravening certain rights of the public and being inimical to fish preservation. It was decided to present a petition to the Privy Council against their authorisation.—The *Salmo fontinalis*, or American Brook Trout, seems to be taking capitally to our waters. A brace of yearlings were shown the other day, nine inches and ten inches long; the larger, a female, having ova developed.

LAWN TENNIS.—At a recent meeting of representatives of clubs, convened by the All England Club, a very general feeling was expressed of the desirability of restricting the value of first prizes to twelve guineas, and that the date and place of meeting should be engraved on all cups of the value of £5. This would probably have the effect of checking to some extent the money and pot-hunting propensity with which certain amateurs seem afflicted.

ATHLETICS.—The Cross-Country Championship, the "blue ribbon" of athletics, has again been contested. The Wimbledon district was the battlefield. Eight clubs were represented, and there were 79 runners. G. A. Dunning, who won in 1881, proved the best man, and did the course in the best time on record. The famous W. G. George, who beat Dunning the week before in the South London Harriers' Steeplechase, was a good second, and also "beat the record." Dunning is a member of the Clapton Beagles; but the Moseley Harriers took first place on the "aggregate" running, as they did last year and the year before.

ALL ATHLETES and followers of sports and pastimes in the three kingdoms will hear with great regret of the death of Mr. J. G. Chambers, one of the best "all-round" men of the present generation. He was an old Cambridge "Blue," and winner of the Colquhoun Sculls. He made Lillie Bridge what it is, and in every way furthered the interests of athletics, being a good athlete himself. At the time of his death he was the Editor of our excellent contemporary, *Land and Water*.

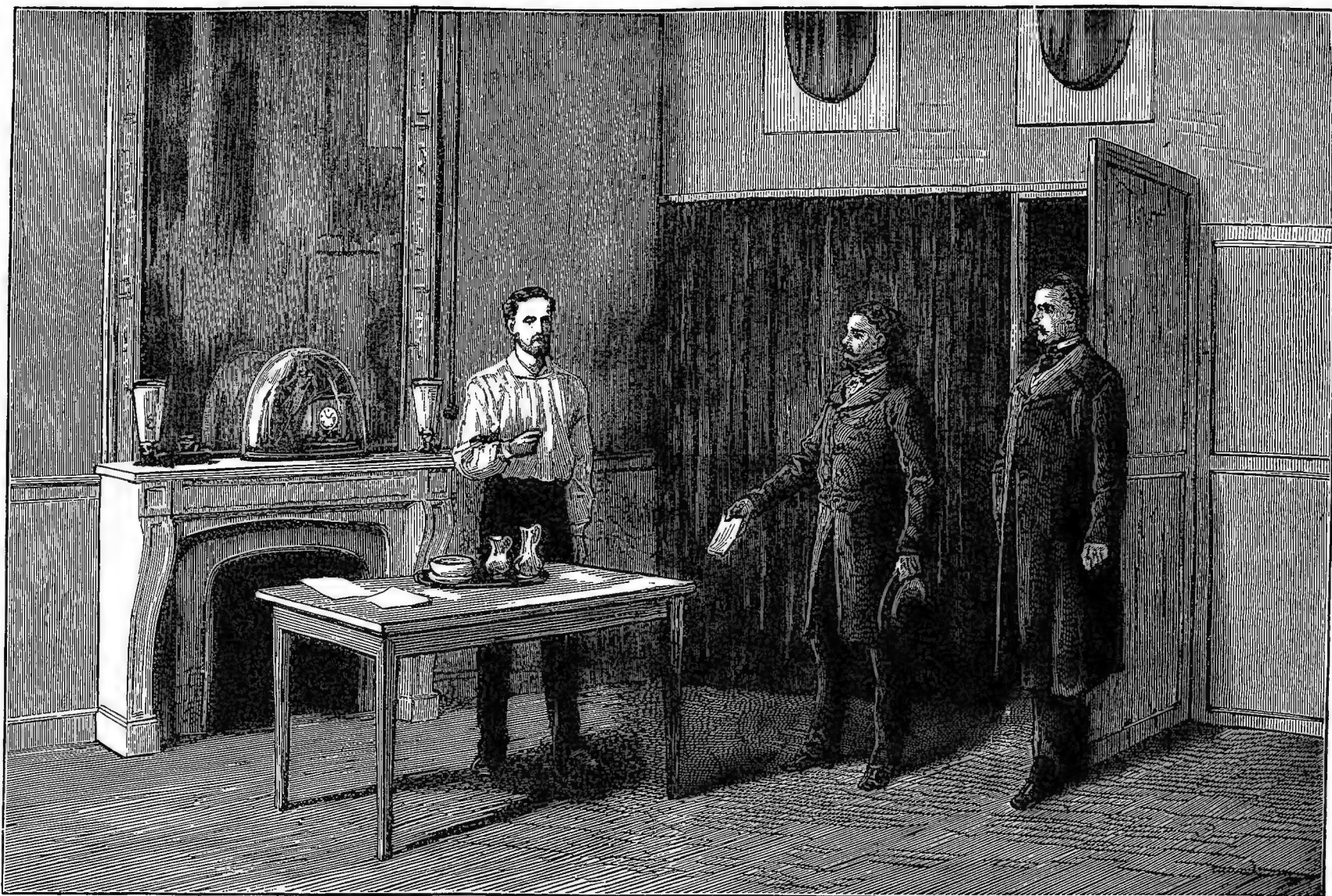


THE business of Parliament actually commenced on Monday last, being eighteen days after the Session was opened by Royal Commission. More than a fortnight had been occupied in making speeches around the Address. But no one, least of all those who survive the duty of listening to them, would venture to assert that they served any useful purpose. Mr. Caine may be a little in advance of the age when he bluntly proposes to abolish the debate on the Address. But, sooner or later, that will be an inevitable result of altered times and circumstances. It is only within the last half-dozen years that the illimitable purposes for which the debate on the Address may be used have been discovered. Originally, it was a good old-fashioned, stately ceremonial, at which the chiefs of the Opposition bore the principal part; whilst the House looked on, assured that it would be all over in time for dinner. Used in that way it is well enough. Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Disraeli have delivered many speeches at each other across the table on the motion for the Address, and many ambitious young men have been introduced to Parliamentary life in military or naval uniforms, as they moved or seconded the Address. But, if practical purpose is to be sought in forms of Parliament, it must not be looked for in the debate on the Address—except as far as Obstruction is concerned. The one constitutional purpose which the Address serves, that of offering an opportunity to an Opposition seriously to challenge the policy of the Government, can be arrived at by the simpler process of giving notice of a vote of censure, on which, according to Parliamentary practice, all other business would be set aside in order to provide opportunity for full debate. What the debate on the Address provides is full opportunity for Obstruction.

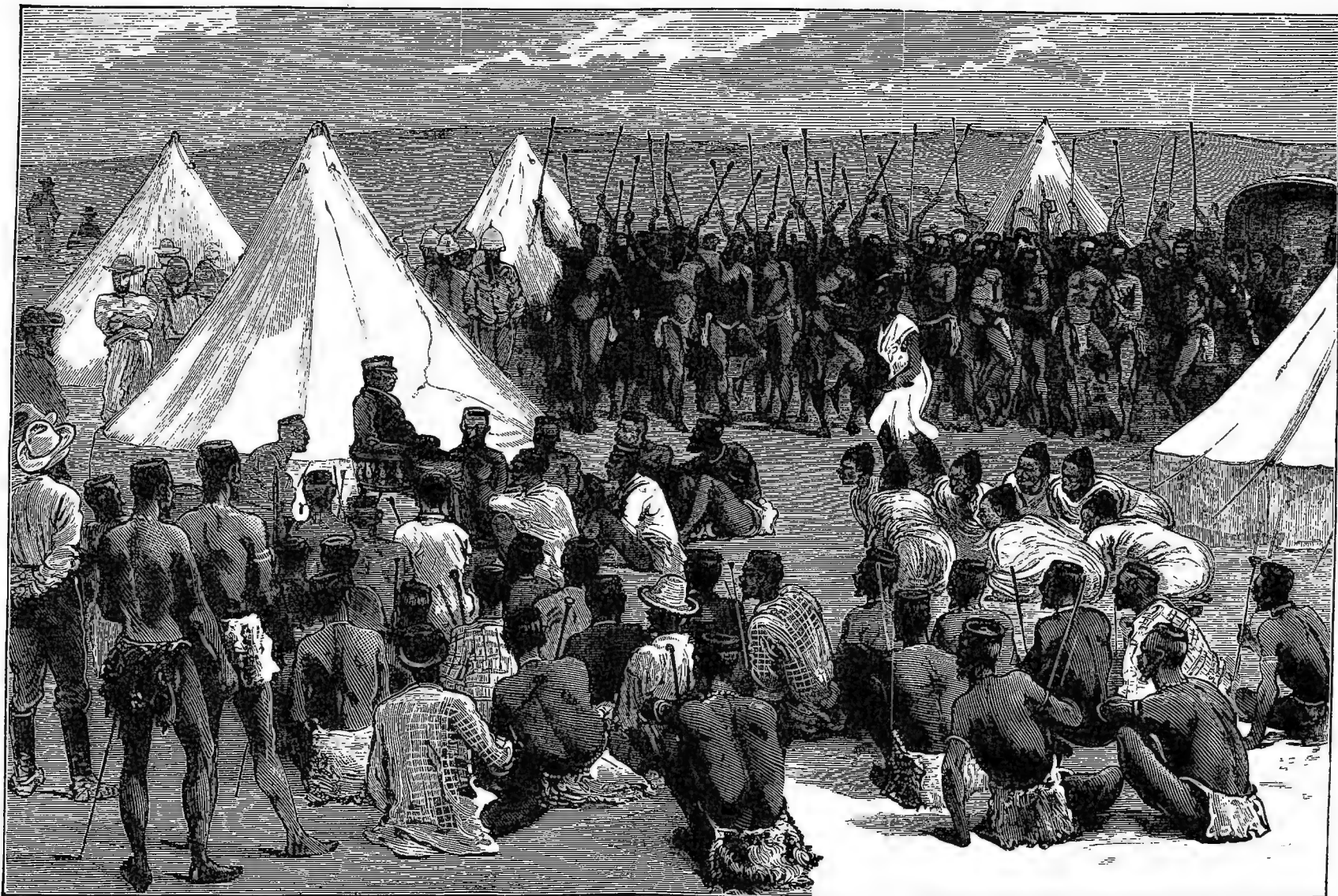
The commencement of real work on Monday was contemporaneous with the return of Mr. Gladstone to the House. He had been expected on Thursday and looked for on Friday, but, perhaps not altogether without design, he stayed away till the debate on the Address was concluded. There was a great crowd both inside the House and outside to witness his arrival. As he entered, the cheers that had filled Palace Yard were taken up from both sides of the House. The Premier looked exceedingly well, and, as he early showed, was full of vigour. A quarter of an hour earlier another Minister, long on the sick list, had made his reappearance. Perhaps of the two Mr. Fawcett received the loudest applause in the House of Commons. The Conservatives, more especially the members of the Fourth Party, who have sorely languished for a fortnight, were very glad to see the Premier back in his place, but it was with mixed feelings that they cheered his return. Mr. Fawcett, on the contrary, though in times past he has been the bitterest and most outspoken exponent of Radical views, has, since he took office, sunk the politician in the Minister, and has earned the respect and admiration even of his stoutest political opponents. Thus, when he came back to work after a critical illness that at one time seemed hopeless, the Conservatives vied with the Liberals in the heartiness of their cheering.

Monday saw one of the most useful of the New Rules come into operation. Formerly, when Supply was the first Order of the Day on Government nights, it was open to any member who had placed an amendment on the paper to make a long speech, and do what he could to spring a debate. Frequently it happened that the House did not get into Committee at all on the appointed day, or did not reach that stage till after midnight, entering upon its most important work when members were weary, and ought to have been in bed. For several Sessions Mr. Biggar, for example, has brought forward the case of Mr. John Clare as an amendment on going into Committee of Supply. Mr. Biggar, with his manifold abilities, is, happily, not a person of great versatility, or even fluency. He was intelligent enough to see the opportunity Supply gave a member for being obstructive; but he was not able to get beyond Mr. John Clare, and having made his speech one year repeated it through successive Sessions. Other Irish members, more gifted, were never at a loss for some subject wherewith to fill up a given number of hours, and the public service suffered accordingly. Now it is ordered that when Supply is the first Order of the Day, on Mondays and Thursdays, the House will forthwith go into Committee and get to work. One reservation is made, that on the first night Supply or any of the Estimates is put up, opportunity shall be given to move amendments on any subject pertaining to the Estimates about to be discussed. Supply was taken on Friday for the first time. Accordingly on Monday there was no obstacle to the Speaker leaving the chair, and shortly after five o'clock the astonished roof looked down upon the House in Committee.

What obstructionists will try to do now is sufficiently obvious. It will be understood that, though the House is in Committee, there is no reason why members shall not at this stage debate questions that otherwise they would have brought forward whilst the Speaker was in the chair. But there is a subtle influence about the Committee stage in the House of Commons that is sure to work with wholesome effect. It is part of the unwritten law of Parliament that whilst, with the Speaker in the chair, members make speeches, in Committee they converse. Mr. O'Donnell attempted to fight against this sentiment by making a speech an hour and a quarter long in defamation of the gallant men who took part in the Palmer expedition, and whom he denounced as spies. But Mr. O'Donnell can do things impossible even to the average Irish member. No one showed a disposition to imitate him in length of speech, and a discussion that might in other circumstances have occupied the whole of the evening was over in a couple of hours. Even on Mr. Gladstone the influence of the stage was evident. The opportunity for which some hon. gentlemen opposite had been fretting for a fortnight was now within reach, and it was amusing to watch the haste with which they availed themselves of it. Sir Walter Bartlett, rising with an innocent air, as if he were about to talk on the condition of the militia or some similar subject, dexterously took the wind out of Lord Randolph's sails, and was the first to "draw" Mr. Gladstone. But Lord Randolph came in a good second, and in the first hour of the Committee the Premier was on his feet making a speech on Government policy in Egypt. Whither that



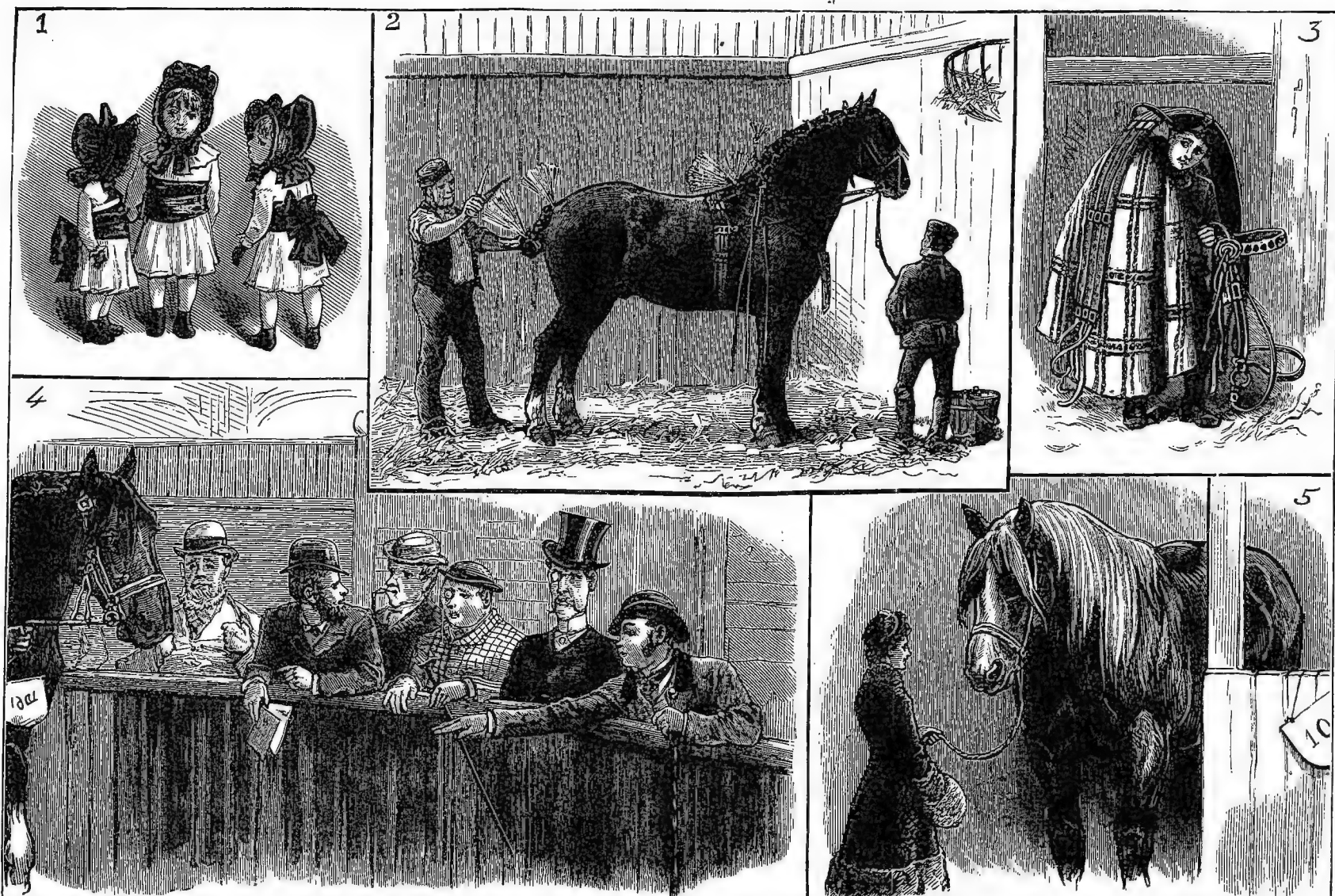
IRISH SUSPECTS IN PARIS—ARREST OF MR. FRANK BYRNE, SECRETARY OF THE LAND AND LABOUR LEAGUE, AT HIS HOTEL IN THE RUE ST. HONORÉ



THE RESTORATION OF CETEWAYO—THE KING RECEIVING A DEPUTATION OF HIS RELATIVES AT INTONYANENE



THE SILVER WEDDING OF THE IMPERIAL PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF GERMANY—THE MINNE DANCE
FROM SKETCHES BY OUR SPECIAL ARTISTS



1. "Fillies Under Four Years Old."—2. The Last Straw.—3. The Harness of Goliath.—4. Criticism.—5. A Lady's Pet.
THE CART-HORSE SHOW AT THE AGRICULTURAL HALL

would have led him had he been addressing the Speaker instead of the Chairman of Committees experience shows. As it was, he did not speak more than a quarter of an hour.

Later in the evening he was "drawn" again on the equally big question of the Transvaal, and here again he spoke for a quarter of an hour. This phenomenon noted, it is not surprising to learn that considerable progress with the Votes was made in the course of the evening. The work was doubtless hastened by some ominous remarks from the Chancellor of the Exchequer. The woeful waste of time in debate on the Address has placed the Services in a most critical position. In order to complete the payments of the financial year, it was absolutely necessary that Supplementary Estimates should be voted by Thursday. Failing that, there was no possibility of the House rising for the Easter holidays on the Tuesday in Passion Week. The holidays, it is understood, will be short enough without being thus further curtailed, and certainly this prospect had something to do in helping the Government to resist Lord R. Churchill's proposal, that at a quarter to twelve progress should be reported.

On Tuesday night private members, enjoying their first opportunity, utilised it by getting the House counted out at half-past eight. On Wednesday Mr. Anderson brought in his Cruelty to Animals Bill, about which there was a good deal of interest. The second clause chiefly excites public attention, being held to prohibit all kinds of sport with gun, rod, or in saddle. Mr. Anderson intimating his willingness to see this clause struck out in Committee, the second reading was granted by 295 votes to 40. On Thursday Supply was again the order of the day, the Irish members taking up the running on the Votes for Law Charges in Ireland, which naturally have a special interest for members of the Land League.

THE ART MAGAZINES FOR MARCH

The place of honour in the *Magazine of Art* is rightly given to Professor Sydney Colvin's "Rossetti as a Painter." This is the best-considered and the best-written article which has yet appeared on the subject; in the midst of current utterances it appears the one piece of authoritative criticism. We do not agree with all the Professor says, but his opinions, if they are not quite final, are, from a certain point of view, just, and they must be regarded with respect. The article—in which the mystic word "amateur" is used with effect—is illustrated with five illustrations after drawings and pictures by Rossetti: wherein the *Magazine of Art* is in a very distinguished minority, for none of the other Art periodicals have anything to show. The frontispiece is a careful, but not faultless, engraving of "Il Ramoscello," perhaps the pleasantest and healthiest of all Rossetti's works in oil. Other articles of interest are Mr. Eustace Balfour's "Sheraton's Furniture;" Sir W. G. Simpson's "Paces of the Horse in Art"—in which the ridiculous instantaneous photographs of moving horses are clearly shown to be useless from the point of view of Art, whatever they may seem from the point of view of Science. In "A Famous Model," Miss Cartwright tells the story of Andrea del Sarto and his beautiful, but soulless wife; Mr. W. W. Fenn contributes a pleasant paper on the South Downs as a sketching-ground; Mr. Conway tells pretty well all that is known of Gonzales Coques, whose "Five Senses" have been recently added to the National Gallery; whilst in "Two Old London Markets" Mr. Austin Dobson gossips in his inimitable manner about Covent Garden as it was, and the "Stocks Market," that "old emporium of Georgian London which has so long gone the way of Troy and the Maypole in the Strand." Altogether an excellent, and in some respects a valuable, number.

In the *Art Journal*, perhaps the best illustration is Mr. Salmon's etching after Jules Breton's "Evening in Finisterre," in which the atmospheric effect is rendered with some success, though with a tendency to wateriness. Less pleasant but perhaps of greater interest just now is the frontispiece, after Mr. Millais's "Christ in the House of His Parents," painted in 1849, that is to say, in the artist's most pronounced pre-Raphaelite manner. Mr. Lionel Robinson's notes on the Berlin Museum of Casts command attention; and Mr. Armstrong in "Movement in the Plastic Arts" continues a disquisition on a subject which seems to be effectually disposed of by Sir W. G. Simpson in the *Magazine of Art*.

On the whole *The Portfolio* shows an average number. The most interesting picture is the illustration etched in white line by Mr. C. O. Murray, on a method proposed and patented by Mr. W. P. Bruce, of Kilmeth, N.B. The result is not altogether satisfactory. It embodies an application to copper of the white line system which Bewick invented for wood engraving; but, if it is fair to judge by this single example, wood-engraving is likely still to hold its own in point of beauty and simplicity.

Art and Letters suffers from a relapse. The sculpture of Michael Angelo, as herein treated, grows wearisome; and "Sandro Botticelli" is a subject which, for the moment at least, seems a little exhausted. "Notes on the South Kensington Museum" are illustrated with some indifferent "process" blocks which we seem to have seen before; and the frontispiece is a dull wood-engraving in the worst style of the modern French school.



OWING to the wish of Mr. Boucicault that a leading part in a new play of his, about to be produced in America, should be played by his son, Mr. Clayton has deemed it best to postpone the dramatised version of Messrs. Besant and Rice's "Chaplain of the Fleet" till later in the year, when Mr. Boucicault, jun., will return to sustain one of the characters as originally intended. Meanwhile the management of the COURT Theatre will produce, on Saturday week, a new and original play, in four acts, written by Mr. Pinero. The new piece will engage the talents of Mr. Clayton, Mr. Arthur Cecil, Mr. Mackintosh, Mr. H. Kemble, Miss Marion Terry, and Miss Kate Rorke.

The arrangements, announced some time since, under which Mr. Hollingshead and Mr. Michael Gunn, of the Savoy Theatre, are to assume the management of the NEW ROYAL AVENUE Theatre, are now completed. The new management will commence on the 24th inst. with a version of Offenbach's *Belle Lurette*. This change will result in no important alteration in the list of the company, of which Miss Florence St. John and M. Marius are leading members.

A simple, but not unimportant reform, introduced at WALLACK'S Theatre, New York, in the case of the production of *The Silver King* at that house, is well worthy of imitation on this side of the Atlantic. Every playgoer has experienced the annoyance of the difficulty of hearing the actors speak in "forward" scenes, owing to the noise of the stage-carpenters, busily engaged in constructing some elaborate set scene behind the painted cloth. This annoyance is said to be altogether obviated at the New York house by compelling the carpenters and their assistants to wear wooden slippers clothed with list.

Mr. Kyrle Bellew has organised a series of performances of *Romeo and Juliet* to be given in the principal provincial towns and cities, commencing this week at the THEATRE ROYAL, Glasgow.

The expedition is equipped with the beautiful scenery and dresses employed in the recent revival of this play at the LYCEUM.

Miss Mary Anderson, the American actress who will appear in association with a strong American company at the LYCEUM next autumn, will open, we hear, in the part of Galatea in Mr. Gilbert's popular mythological comedy. She has already played the part successfully in the United States.

The state of health of that excellent burlesque actor, Mr. Royce, leaves, we regret to hear, little hope—at least for the present—of his reappearance on the stage. A movement has been commenced by a few actors, managers, and dramatic authors for organising a benefit on his behalf. We are, we believe, betraying no secret when we add that since Mr. Royce was stricken with paralysis nearly twelve months ago, Mr. Hollingshead has generously continued to pay him his large salary, amounting to about 800*l.* per annum. It is felt by his friends that the time has now come for rendering him assistance under the wholly unforeseen calamity that has befallen him.

Mr. Burnand's *Blue Beard*, which will shortly be produced at the GAIETY Theatre, is, we understand, to be not only in name but in fact a "burlesque drama." It will be, we believe, a sort of paraphrase and travesty of the old Oriental story, giving real scope for the acting talents of Mr. E. Terry, Miss E. Farren, and the rest of the Gaiety Company, as distinguished from the mere extravagancies into which modern burlesque exhibits a strong tendency to degenerate.

The annual performances which will commence this year at Stratford-on-Avon on the 16th of April, in honour of the memory of Shakespeare, will not be limited to Shakespearian plays. *The Merchant of Venice*, *King Henry the Fourth*, and *King Lear*, however, will be represented. The festival, which will extend over twelve nights, including the reputed anniversary of the poet's birthday (April 23rd), will be under the general direction of Mr. Creswick, the well-known actor.

Mr. Calmoun's new play, entitled *Wives*, and Mr. Walter Frith's adaptation, to which he has given the name of *Ensnared*, were both produced on Thursday afternoon—the former at the VAUDEVILLE, the latter at the GAIETY. We are compelled to reserve a notice of these pieces until next week.

It is announced that Lord Coleridge will take the chair at the farewell dinner to be given to Mr. Irving (we believe at the Freemasons' Tavern) on the occasion of his departure with the Lyceum company for the United States next autumn.

MRSS. MERRITT AND CONQUEST's drama of *Hand and Glove* was revived (for three weeks) on Monday evening at the SURREY Theatre. Mr. George Conquest gives a humorous rendering of Timothy Hand; while Miss Alice Kayner, as the wealthy widow, Lady Lexboro', was very effective.

The Promenade Concert Season will open at COVENT GARDEN on August 4, with Mr. G. Crowe again as conductor.

MRS. LANGTRY will conclude her American tour on May 10th. In reply to an interviewer she stated her intention of studying under M. Regnier during the autumn, and of undertaking a fresh American tour on her own account next winter.

ANGLO-PARISIANS

PARIS, in season and out, has always a colony or contingent of "Britishers." They are a more select and scattered body than that formed by the French in London, who have made local habitations and names—not always respectable—in Leicester Square and its neighbourhood. Still there is always a strong admixture of Albion in the Boulevard crowds from the Madeleine to a little beyond the Café Anglais; and the Rue de Rivoli to the Louvre, is entirely, according to the Parisians, in the hands of Sir Bull. Even when the tourists, who chiefly abound in the summer, are not in Paris, numbers of our countrymen and countrywomen are to be met in the places just mentioned. And these English whom one meets are for the most part inhabitants of the French metropolis, who have pastors, physicians, lawyers, and tailors of their own, and forming part like them of the same slice of the shopkeeping nation embedded, as it were, in the heart of frivolous Paris. These colonists from *Outre Manche* are scarcely ever met out of the range of their own houses, clubs, churches, and institutions. The Latin Quarter, or what remains of it, and indeed the southern bank of the Seine generally, are undiscovered countries to them. They have a wide territory of their own, embracing the wealthiest and the healthiest part of Paris; they are dispersed over the Avenues of the Champs Elysées, the Faubourg St. Honoré, and the Parc de Neuilly. They have literally "occupied" Western Paris. It is true that the language of Shakespeare may sometimes be heard in Belleville *cabarets*—for the British workman is often there; and do not the members of the Salvation Army hold "Fort Valmy" on the dingy and dilapidated quay bearing the name of the famous victory of Dumouriez? Around the Rue Montmartre also there is an active commercial colony of Saxons, and Manchester is strongly represented within sight of the red-painted offices of the revolutionary *Lanterne*. But these are "business people," and with them the true Anglo-Parisian has little save the name of nationality in common.

Your Anglo-Parisian is of various complexions and conditions. There are the strictly aristocratic Anglo-Parisians, who go to Trouville, Mentone, and the races regularly, old and young patricians, for the most part, who drive four-in-hand, and belong to the Jockey Club. There are the other aristocratic colonists of the professions, who go to Trouville, Mentone, and to church regularly, for they are strict observers of the Sabbath. But the most numerous class is that of the "chic Anglais" of the Boulevards and the *cafés*, whose occupation is often enigmatical. He is always well dressed, and gives the sartorial cut to a host of Parisian imitators who are proud to pass for Englishmen themselves. Formerly Frenchmen were pointed to as models of dress and distinction for us, and in an old play a Duke says to a friend returned from abroad:—

Sene you've been to France
A more correct and jaunty man
I ne'er did see before!

Nowadays we have changed all that, and young Frenchmen are proud to accept English models of elegance. Lorenzo de Lardy has become the hero of their worship, and the "correctest of cards" gives them the cue for the proper colour of their ties and the exact length of their trousers. This "chic Anglais" may be a bookmaker, a bagman, a half-pay officer, an "agent," or anything within the possibilities. If of a certain age, he knows as much about Paris as the old chronicler of the *Figaro*. He is familiar with all the best places on the boulevards—and the worst. You may see him, after dinner, outside the Café de la Paix with a huge cigar, the *Times*, and his brandy-and-water. He dines at the Grand Hotel, and breakfasts at Lucas's or Hill's, where his nationality is known to strangers by his taking British beer with the morning meal, a feat so vigorously English as completely to appal his Parisian imitators. Everywhere in the select parts of Paris may you see our distinguished countryman. In the *foyer* of the Opera; in a box on first nights; at the Salon on Varnishing Day; scrupulously following in the wake of that "tout Paris," as a certain conglomeration of mortals is called, as if "tout Paris" were everywhere, and the rest of the globe a blank similar to that which many Chinese imagine to exist outside the Great Wall.

Our countrywoman in Paris is also interesting to notice. When very pretty and well dressed she excites the envy of the ladies, and

calls forth the admiration of the gentlemen of France. To their discredit be it said, however, French writers—Octave Feuillet among them—are ungallant enough to sneer at Englishwomen. But this is done to curry favour with the fair of their own land; for two things which a Frenchwoman will not concede to an *Anglaise* are the attribute of beauty and the art of dressing. Theirs is the empire of taste and good looks. The grandeur of France may be dimmed, but the glory of Parisian millinery and the grace of Parisian coquetry are for ever. Even the *petite ouvrière*—as nearly every Frenchman will tell you—can wrap a cheap print dress, bought for fifteen francs at *La Belle Jardinière*, around her with a grace fit for Dido. It is time our countrywomen looked to their laurels. They are too prone to stiffness, and to regard the French as if the lively Gauls required a course of mothers' meetings and special sermons to put them on a par with Britons. A few lessons in dressing, even from the enemy, would enable them to rival the Parisiennes in *cachet*, as they rival them in the possession of that "beauty without paint" which is peculiar to Englishwomen.

W. L.



THE WINDOWS IN THE OLD WALL, which had been bricked up when the Courts at Westminster were constructed, will now be repaired, and the original aspect of that side of the ancient buildings restored as nearly as may be. The site of the Courts themselves is not to be built over, but to be kept as a turfed open space.

A CONFERENCE of twenty out of twenty-six Kentish Unions was held on Monday last at Maidstone, to consider the best means of enforcing the Casual Poor Act of 1882. When this is done strictly the number of tramps perceptibly diminishes, but in very many Unions the Act is only enforced partially, or not at all. On the motion of Lord Stanhope, a Committee was appointed to secure uniformity of action in all the workhouses throughout Kent.

AFTER TWO ABORTIVE EFFORTS to remove the case to the Queen's Bench Division, and one failure in the Central Criminal Court on the previous Thursday, through the inability of the jury to agree upon a verdict, the trial of Foote, Ramsay, and Kemp, editor, printer, and publisher of the *Free Thinker*, for a blasphemous libel in the Christmas number, terminated on Monday, before Mr. Justice North, in a verdict of "Guilty" against the three. The decision of the jury was received with murmurs first, and then with hisses, by a gallery evidently packed with sympathisers, and the hisses grew into a storm when the Judge concluded some remarks on Foote's "prostitution of talents given him by God to the work of the Devil," by sentencing him to twelve months' imprisonment, accompanied, as was erroneously imagined at the time, by hard labour. The galleries had to be cleared by the police, and even after this there was a roar of angry voices in the street outside, the criminal taking the opportunity to remark, "The sentence, my lord, is worthy of your creed." Ramsay and Kemp, as being simply the agents of others, received milder sentences of nine and three months' respectively. Cattell, a news-agent, convicted on Thursday of offering the Christmas number for sale, was bound over in 20*l.*, with one surety for 100*l.*, to come up for judgment when called upon.—In the same Court, on the same day, Mrs. Stanger, wife of the missing baker of St. Luke's, was sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment with hard labour, for perjury at the trial of her supposed paramour, Stumm.

DR. WHITMARSH has refused to resign his post as medical officer for Hounslow at the request of the Brentford Board of Guardians. Seven hundred persons, he declares, have memorialised him to remain; the Board, on the other hand, have received a third petition for his removal with 500 signatures. All the documents, including the verdict of the jury at the inquest on Dr. Edwards, will be now transmitted to the Local Government Board, in whose hands the matter will be left.

THE OFFICIAL INQUIRY into the loss of the *City of Brussels* by collision with the *Kirby Hall* was concluded last week at Liverpool. The Court found that the *Kirby Hall* was under-manned, and that her master was to blame for not stopping sooner when he heard the whistle from the other steamer; but the error was not grave enough to justify them in suspending his certificate. No blame of any kind attached to the captain of the Inman liner.

A PRETENDED ZEAL IN THE CAUSE OF RELIGIOUS CHARITY appears to have enabled a Mr. Holden—"wanted" just now in London for obtaining goods on the pretence of being an agent of the Duke of Marlborough—to live comfortably for many years at the expense of tradesmen in the Midland Counties. His plan was to scrape acquaintance with as many clergymen as possible, and, fortified by their recommendations and his own pious demeanour, to obtain goods from tradesmen upon credit, which he then disposed of either personally or through the help of certain accomplices. He has now been committed for trial at the Burslem Stipendiary Court for obtaining goods on false pretences. The Court was crowded with victims from Manchester, Birmingham, Buxton, Leek, and a number of other towns.

A TERRIBLE PARRICIDE occurred last Sunday at Matlock Bridge, the victim being the Rev. J. Benn, well known in the East of London as Congregationalist minister of Old Gravel Lane Meeting House, and the murderer his third son, William, a youth of twenty-six. The murder was discovered by the landlady, who feared her lodgers had over-slept themselves, and found the father in bed with his skull broken in, and the son lying on the floor with a wound, which proved to be only slight, in his throat. The son, who at once confessed the crime, had been for some time in a lunatic asylum, and had been taken to Matlock by Mr. Benn to complete his recovery.

THE PRESS ASSOCIATION still maintain the truth of the story about the missing heiress, the daughter of a baronet's son, by a secret marriage with his father's cook, left on a door-step in Kingstown on the 24th of January, 1860, by the mother, and vainly sought for in after years, until at length discovered by an uncle, an Indian colonel, who refuses to take any portion of the large estates in the Midlands, to which, but for the discovery of the lost girl, he would himself have succeeded as his father's heir. The only detail requiring correction is that the hero of the tale is not an uncle, but a cousin, and that some confusion may possibly have arisen from the strange fact that on that January night "two infant female children happened to be left in Kingstown on two door-steps."

THE FORTHCOMING INTERNATIONAL FISHERIES' EXHIBITION at South Kensington will be lighted by electricity.

EVERY HOHENZOLLERN PRINCE is bound by usage to learn a trade, and Prince Leopold, the only son of Prince Frederick Charles, and brother of the Duchess of Connaught, is working hard at the locksmith's handicraft.

DUELLING IN GERMANY is still on the increase, notwithstanding the recent attempts to put down the practice. In Jena twenty-one duels were recently fought in a single day. Curiously enough, the rapiers not having been properly cleaned caused serious blood-poisoning even amongst those but slightly injured, four students having died from this cause alone.

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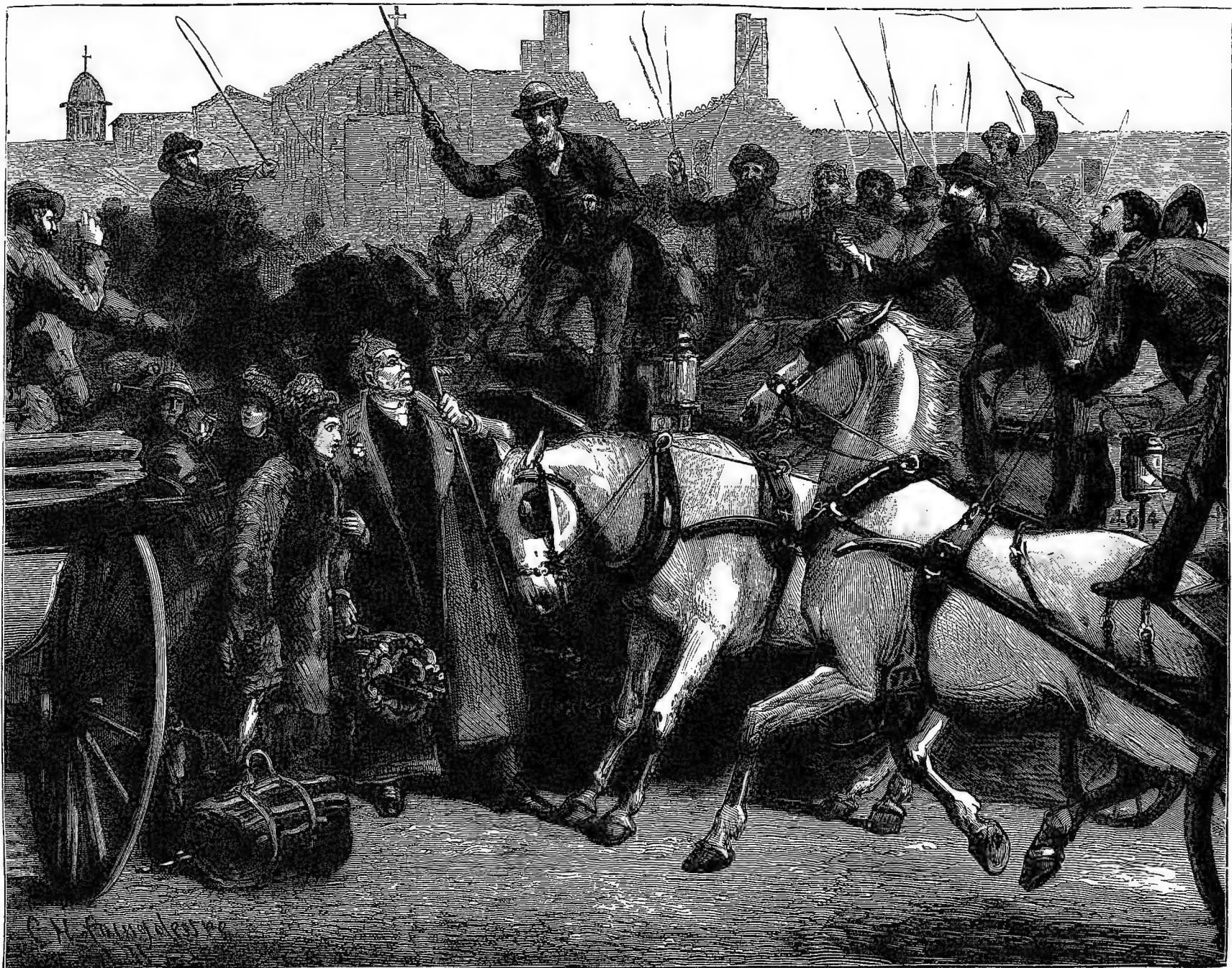
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"We twain have met like ships upon the sea."

CHAPTER XIX.

THERE wanted but ten days to the wedding, when one night the news came to Mr. Higgins's house that old Mrs. Fox had "had a stroke," and was lying at the point of death. Mr. Higgins had already gone to bed. But Violet immediately put on her bonnet, and set off to see if she could be of any help or comfort to her friend Kitty Low. She found the latter very quiet and calm, carrying out the instructions of the doctor who had just left the house. "Why it's never you, Miss Violet!" exclaimed Kitty in a hushed voice when she saw Violet standing under the cold starlight on the threshold.

"Yes, Kitty; I came to see if I could do anything. How is your grandmother?"

"Just about setting out on the long journey, Miss Violet. There's little hope of a rally. But I shall do what the doctor bids. But you—you really came out of kindness to help me? I didn't expect that. I knew you were a kind-disposed young lady, but folks so often stop short at being disposed. Well, I'm thankful to you. And I shan't forget it. But just you go back home and get into your warm bed. I don't want no help. But I shan't forget what you've done, Miss Violet."

Violet, however, finding that Kitty was alone in the house, refused to leave her. She sent word home by James Rawlinson, who had unwillingly attended her with much elaborate shivering and demonstrations of fatigue and sleepiness, that she should remain in Mrs. Fox's cottage for the night. The two young women sat one on each side of the bed in the small clean chamber where Mrs. Fox lay, heavily breathing away the last hours of her earthly existence. At first they talked a little in whispers, although their loudest tones would have failed to rouse the dulled hearing of the old woman. But by degrees they fell into silence, broken only by the stertorous breathing of the figure on the bed, by the loud slow ticking of the clock, and by the piercing chirp of the crickets on the warm kitchen hearth.

Violet felt a sudden gleam across her eyes, and awoke with a start to find that Kitty had opened the shutters and let in the cold grey light of the morning. She also found herself covered with shawls, and had had a pillow deftly slipped behind her head during the night. She roused herself, full of self-reproach. "Oh Kitty,

she exclaimed, "why did you let me sleep? That is not what I came for. I have done you no good."

"You've done me more good than I can say. More good than buckets of doctor's stuff. It was a comfort to know you were here. And as to going to sleep, it was only natural. You're young, poor thing."

Violet cast a glance at the bed. The clean check curtains were closely drawn round it. "She's gone, Miss Violet," said Kitty. "Slipped away so quiet as you couldn't hardly say when the last moment came."

"Oh, Kitty; I'm so sorry for you."

"Yes, you are; I can see that. Poor granny, she was good to me for many a year."

"How lonely you will be now, Kitty."

"Lonely enough. But I never much expected to be anything else. Now you go home and lie down. I shall step round to my neighbour Mrs. Sykes, and she'll help me to do what has to be done."

Mrs. Fox's funeral was attended by all the most respectable inhabitants of Dozebury. Mr. Halliday preached a sermon, in which he spoke of her late husband's long connection with St. Mary's, and of the virtues of the deceased, which were, on his showing, nearly all summed up in the supreme merit of having been "a staunch Churchwoman." Kitty was not so philosophical but that she was gratified by this public tribute to the respectable position held by her grandfather and grandmother; even although it came from Mr. Halliday, of whose intelligence, as we know, she had but a poor opinion.

After the funeral was over, Kitty Low, in her cool, undemonstrative manner, proposed to Violet to take service with her and Miss Baines, and to accompany them abroad.

"Oh, my dear Kitty," replied Violet; "I don't believe Aunt Betsy is rich enough to think of having such a luxury as a travelling maid."

"Well, a lady's maid may be a luxury, or may not, Miss Violet. From what I've seen, I fancy they're mostly luxuries after the fashion of a tight boot with a high heel. But I think I could be useful to your aunt. She's timid and gentle, and apt to get put upon. I'd serve her faithful without wages so long as we was travelling abroad—just for my keep and my journeys."

"But, my dear good creature, you could easily get your keep and good wages into the bargain elsewhere."

"Yes, I know I could. But I shouldn't get other things I care more for. This is how the case is: I'm not destitute. My grandmother left me what little property she had. It isn't much; but it's enough to stand between me and the workhouse. And so long as I have my health, of course I can earn my living. I've thought it all over; and I've said to myself, 'Kitty Low, what is it the folks are all striving for?' Why to get what happiness they can out of their span of life. To be sure the most of us seek after happiness in a blind, blundering kind of a way. Some even looks to find it by squeezing their vitals with tight stays,—we mortals are such a curious breed! Now, through me being so plain, I haven't the temptations of vanity to blind me. I might squeeze myself flat in a mangle, Miss Violet, before any man would think of keeping company with me for my looks. And I'm not very greedy about money. Well, then, what is it I really want and wish for to make me a bit contented? Why just to be near some one as likes me a little, and that I can be useful to. I should dearly love to be near you, Miss Violet, and do what I could for you. There's no merit in that. It would be my way of making myself comfortable. Is it true, or isn't it, that man does not live by bread alone? We have pretty high authority for believing so. But most on us use our Bibles as we use the best parlour,—shut it up tight and dark all the week, and go and shiver in it o' Sundays."

Violet was greatly touched by this offer. And the more she turned it over in her mind, the more she felt inclined to secure Kitty's services, if possible. If Violet married, her aunt would necessarily have less of her care and attention than heretofore. She thought of the poor lady alone, perhaps in a Roman lodging, left to the mercies of Mariucca, or some similar rough coarse creature, to whom she would be simply an outlandish, incomprehensible, troublesome person. And then she thought what a blessing clean, silent, honest, neat-handed Kitty Low would be under such circumstances. She broached the subject to her aunt, and expended all her eloquence in recommending that they should give Kitty a trial. "And look here, Aunt Betsy," said she, "you won't have the expense of my journey and my board this time. And Kitty Low will probably be a less costly travelling companion to you than I have been. And Uncle Joshua has promised me fifty pounds. Do let me pay your

maid's journey with that! Come, Aunt Betsy, don't be stingy. I've never had the pleasure of paying anything for you, and you have paid so much for me, you greedy thing!" And Violet coaxingly put her arms round her aunt's neck, and her smooth young cheek against her aunt's pale withered face.

Miss Baines was nearly vanquished. But she refused to give her final consent until Uncle Joshua should be consulted. "I'll undertake to tell him," said Violet.

"Tell him? Ask him, you mean, my dear; ask him! I shan't give my consent without his."

Violet took the first opportunity of speaking to her uncle, and it happened that Mrs. Lucas was present. She had been invited by Mr. Higgins to inspect some patterns for a new carpet which was to be bought for the drawing-room; and was sitting in great state with the scraps of carpet spread out before her, mightily enjoying the importance of her position. Mr. Higgins was seated in his easy chair near the window, reading a newspaper.

"Oh, Uncle Joshua," said Violet, coming in full of her subject, "Aunt Betsy wants to know what you would think of her taking a maid to go abroad with her. I hope you'll approve, for I do!"

Before Mr. Higgins could speak, Mrs. Lucas broke in. "A maid! What can your Aunt Betsy want with a maid?"

"That is what I am about to set before my uncle," answered Violet. And she proceeded to expatiate on the usefulness of a good English servant to her aunt, who was not strong, and who often needed little attentions which it was vain to expect from strangers. "And then this pearl of a servant, who is the best creature in the world, and can do anything—wash and starch, and iron, and sew and cook—this wonderful treasure will come without wages so long as we remain abroad! Only think of that, Uncle Joshua!"

Again Mrs. Lucas interposed: this time with a heightened colour and a distinct expression of anger on her round visage. "Why you don't mean to say you are speaking of Kitty Low?" she exclaimed.

"Yes, I do, Mrs. Lucas."

"Then I consider it shameful," cried Mrs. Lucas, in a tone much sharper than her ordinary mellifluous one. "I fully intended to take Kitty Low abroad myself as my own maid if she were free. I spoke of it to her, in fact. And it was only her grandmother that stood in the way. And now for Miss Baines to cut in and forestall me! But I will not submit to it. I shall tell Kitty that I have the prior claim; and that she need not serve me without wages. And, moreover, I should give her a permanent place here as parlourmaid when I return home."

Violet's quick indignation at the tone of this speech was quenched by beholding her uncle's face, which Mrs. Lucas could not discern very well from where she sat, and which in her heat she had not observed. Mr. Higgins had pushed up his spectacles on his forehead, and was glaring at his betrothed with an expression of indignant amazement.

"Hulloa!" cried he suddenly in a voice which made Mrs. Lucas jump. "What is all this of 'I shall' and 'I shan't' and 'I mean to engage' this person and that person? Where was it you intended to give the young woman the place of parlourmaid, if I may venture to put the question?"

Mrs. Lucas changed colour, and became rather tremulous; but she tried to keep a bold front. Both parties felt that a decisive struggle was at hand.

"I—here, of course; in our house," she answered majestically.

"Oh! 'Here in our house!'" repeated Mr. Higgins very slowly, and still glaring at her. "May I ask when you came into possession of any portion of these premises, Jane Lucas? So far as I know, this freehold property belongs to Joshua Higgins, as it did to his father before him. And may I further inquire on what journey you were thinking of taking a maid servant abroad with you, Jane Lucas?"

Mrs. Lucas grew redder and redder, and began to grope in her pocket for her handkerchief, so as to be ready for all emergencies. "Upon our wedding tour, Mr. Higgins," she answered. "I thought it only becoming that your wife should have a maid to wait upon her if a suitable one could be found."

"In—deed! And all this without saying a word to me, Jane Lucas?"

"I should, of course, have consulted you before settling anything, Mr. Higgins. But I couldn't suppose but what you would deem it fitting for your bride to have due attendance."

"In—deed!"

"Yes, indeed, Mr. Higgins. And if you have so little consideration for the feelings of one who is shortly to be—"

"Yes? You were proceeding to make some observations, Jane Lucas. I'm waiting."

"Well, I mean to say that I am very sensitive; extremely so. And I have been accustomed to the tenderest treatment. And if you cannot appreciate refinement of sentiment, Mr. Higgins, it may be better to—"

"Yes? You were proceeding to make some further observations, Jane Lucas. I'm waiting."

"Well, then, better for me to draw back while there is yet time, sir. That's all!" exclaimed Mrs. Lucas, expending her last ammunition in one burst, and instantly retiring behind her handkerchief in a flood of tears.

"Aha! Now that's just the point I wanted to come to. I begin, Jane Lucas, as I mean to go on; so as to avoid mistakes in future. I'm master here, and I intend to continue so. As to your arranging anything in this household before you're my wife, I consider it a liberty. And whatever you do afterwards must be under my approbation. Don't you take too much on yourself. That's my advice to you, Jane Lucas. None of the women of my family have ever been allowed to take too much on themselves, and I don't mean you to be the first. So now you have been told the state of the case fair and plain, and can make up your mind about 'drawing back,' as you said. I'll give you up to five o'clock this afternoon to decide. After that it'll be too late for you to say anything on the subject. With regard to Aunt Betsy's question, Violet, you can tell her I approve her good sense in appealing to me; and that I see no objection to my niece, Miss Baines, of Woodbine Cottage, engaging an attendant if she thinks it needful for her years and infirmities. When others require attendance for similar reasons they shall have it. Now you and me will go out for a little walk, and leave Jane Lucas to recover her spirits."

Mrs. Lucas could not be said to have recovered her spirits by supper time, being languid, and complaining of "nerves;" which, said she in a plaintive voice, "I have had for years, although few persons suppose it," as though she were peculiarly aggrieved by possessing those portions of the human anatomy. But she had evidently made her peace with Mr. Higgins. She had been mortified to find how much she had miscalculated her power over him. And perhaps still more mortified at his having spoken before Violet. But she was not disposed to relinquish being Mrs. Higgins, for all that. Nevertheless the incident rankled in her mind. And whereas before she had felt only a superior toleration for Miss Baines, and a patronising inclination to be gracious to Violet, she now nourished a secret resentment against them both. But she was still keen to have Violet with her on her visit to Rome. For the title of the Duke of Pontalto sounded in her ears with seductive sweetness. And she pictured to herself her own entrance into the Guarini's *salon* attired in her smartest new gown, and the fine acquaintances she would be sure to make there, with eager anticipation. "But when once I have made my own position, I shall allow the Baines party to sink into the background," said she to herself.

So the preparations for the wedding went on. The appointed

day arrived. Mr. and Mrs. Joshua Higgins, having been joined together in holy matrimony in the morning, started for London in the afternoon. Miss Baines and Violet, attended by Kitty Low in her plain black gown, joined them a few days later at Folkestone. And thence the strangely-assorted party proceeded to the Continent together.

CHAPTER XX.

"AND this is Rome, is it?" exclaimed Mr. Joshua Higgins in accents of the bitterest contempt. He had staggered out of the station under the weight of a heavy parcel of wraps in one hand, and a valise in the other; while his wife bore a second bundle of shawls and a huge dressing-bag, and Kitty Low was laden like a packhorse with other property belonging to the ladies of the party. It was a bright afternoon early in April. The sun shone; the sky was blue; little breezes blew the dust in eddies about the wide Sahara-like expanse of ground in front of the Roman railway terminus. Mr. Higgins was tired, and dusty, and heated, and dazed. He had been buffeted by the crowd in his attempt to get out, roared at by deafening hotel touters, and had had a hand-to-hand tussle with a functionary of the city *octroi*, who merely desired to ascertain that he had nothing eatable in his valise, but whom he assumed to be attempting to despoil him of his property.

"This," repeated Mr. Higgins, standing breathless on the pavement outside the station, and gazing around him very red and angry, "is Rome!"

"Roma! Albergo di Roma! Hôtel de Rome! Rome hôtel, sare," shouted an omnibus conductor, plucking him by the sleeve, whilst another made an effort to possess himself of the bundle of rugs. Mr. Higgins's hands were too fully occupied to allow of his doubling his fists. But he glared about him like an angry bull, and was proceeding to express his sentiments in a series of idiomatic oburgations, when Violet came to the rescue. By her and Kitty Low's combined exertions the party were safely packed into two cabs, the luggage tickets were confided to a porter, and they drove away down the long modern street, called the Via Nazionale, towards the boarding-house where they had engaged rooms.

"I suppose you've made up your mind to take leave of your luggage for good and all, Jane Higgins?" said her lord when he had somewhat recovered his breath.

"La, Mr. Higgins, I hope not. Why?"

"You don't suppose that fellow will bring it to the house, do you?"

"Oh, he will indeed, uncle," put in Violet. "I've got his number. Here it is," and she held up a brass plate with a number engraved on it.

"Number? Pooh! Much he cares for numbers!"

"But he's bound you know, Uncle Joshua, to deliver safely—"

"Bound!" (with an accent of indescribable disdain and incredulity). "What's to bind him?"

"The law, Uncle Joshua."

"The law? Tcha! You're not such a simpleton as to suppose he minds the law, are you?"

In a word, Mr. Higgins maintained this singular theory of the railway porter's extra-legality and superiority to all judicial institutions with the utmost vigour, and as it appeared to give him some satisfaction, and to divert his mind from other causes of annoyance, Violet soon ceased to contest the point.

At length they all reached the boarding-house, and were comfortably installed. Mr. and Mrs. Higgins were accommodated according to express stipulation with a private sitting-room which, though small, was neat and comfortable, and presently, when they had rested and washed themselves, and refreshed themselves with food, Mr. Higgins's attitude of mind towards the Eternal City became somewhat less ferocious. The arrival of the luggage in due course, although it relieved his mind of anxiety, did not at all modify his views as to the porter.

"Well, I'm glad it has so turned out," said he to his wife, when he beheld the respectable, stout, English-made trunks ranged in the bedroom; "and that the fellow did not think it worth while to make away with them. If he'd have taken it into his head, he might have broken up the boxes, and been off to the mountains among the brigands with everything packed on mule-back by now. Police? Don't tell me! You don't imagine the police would meddle with him? He knows all about the police, you may depend; most likely they're in league with him."

Violet's first thought on arriving had been to possess herself of two letters that were awaiting her, and to shut herself up in her own room with them. One was from Nina Guarini; the other from Mario Masi. It need scarcely be said that the latter was first opened. She sat down on the side of the bed in the little room assigned to her, and eagerly took it out of its cover. There was one disappointing circumstance evident even before she began to read it—it was very short. Nor were its contents such as altogether to make amends for this disappointment.

"DEAREST VIOLETTA," it ran, "your letter announcing your return to Rome reached me in the midst of an extraordinary press of business. I am, indeed, still working very hard, and everything seems to rest on my shoulders. Of course I shall not present myself at your domicile while you are with your uncle, or until you have prepared him to receive me as an acquaintance. We had better for the present continue to keep our engagement secret. Let me see your uncle, so as to make a good impression on him before the truth is revealed. As soon as you and the respectable Zia Elisabetta—to whom say so many things for me—are installed in your own apartment, I shall fly to see you. La Guarini will come to you, and I shall hear your news from her. Addio, tesoro mio."

"P.S.—Do you think your uncle would buy some shares of our company, or of the *Tribune of the People*?—M.M."

"Well, of course," said Violet, to herself, after reading and re-reading this epistle; "he is too busy to write long letters just now. And ought I to complain of that, when he is working for my sake? If it had not been for me, he would have been leading his old cheerful life, free from care and anxiety, at this moment."

But the injunction to keep secrecy as to their engagement gave her a feeling of distress which was not easily dispelled or reasoned away. "I cannot live a life of deceit and concealment," she said. "It was hard, even in England, when Mario was far away. But now and here, when we shall meet every day, and often in my uncle's presence, I shall have to be constantly acting a part. Mario has not thought of that. He cannot have pictured to himself what it would be."

Then she opened Nina's letter, which she had well-nigh forgotten. It was very affectionate, but Violet thought there was a slight shade in it of something that was rather sadness than constraint—something less bright and trenchant than the Signora's usual style. She could not guess that the shade of sadness—which in truth was there—arose from pity for herself.

"I shall come," said Nina, in conclusion, "to pay my respects to your new aunt, if you tell me that my visit will be well received. It is the custom here, you know, for the latest comer to call first. But Madame Higgins may not know that, and I shall not stand on etiquette with her. I wish to coax and please this lady, who has power to do so much for my little Violet, *comprends-tu*?"

Violet had no doubt as to the Signora Guarini's visit being well received, and she sent her friend a note to that effect the same evening. For that night she and Miss Baines were to remain in the

boarding-house, but the following day they intended to seek a furnished apartment, where they could live less expensively, as they said, and where (as they did not say) they could enjoy more quiet and independence, and have their old confidential talks together, free from the somewhat oppressive society of Mrs. Joshua Higgins. The boarding-house dinner had fortunately been found satisfactory by both Mr. and Mrs. Higgins; and as the house—owing to the season being advanced—was by no means full, the landlady was able to devote a great deal of her attention to the new comers, which gave Mr. Higgins a favourable idea of her intelligence. So that on the whole, when the party was assembled in the private sitting-room, and Uncle Joshua had been supplied with a glass of grog and his pipe, his mood was more serene and pleasant than might have been expected by any one who had chanced to witness the stormy scene of his arrival that afternoon.

Violet's announcement that the Signora Guarini proposed calling on Mrs. Higgins was most graciously received. "I shall be happy to see her, Violet," said Mrs. Higgins; "and I wish I could know when she was likely to come, so that I might have on my lilac satin. There is a great deal in first impressions, and I would not have her think that your uncle's bride is unworthy of her position."

"What's the lady's name, again?" asked Uncle Joshua.

"Guarini, uncle," answered Violet.

"Gwarrinny? Why, that's the name of the party you warned my nieces against, Jane Higgins, in the days when you was Jane Lucas!" said Uncle Joshua, with great distinctness. The old man did not over-rate his youthfulness in one particular at least—namely, the possession of a singularly clear and retentive memory. His new wife had already found this faculty inconvenient on more than one occasion. It was vain to attempt persuading Mr. Higgins that he was mistaken or confused as to any incident which had once come within the sphere of his experience. He would bring forward names, dates, and minute particulars with overwhelming accuracy. "You've changed your note completely, it seems," pursued Mr. Higgins. "You're all agog to know this lady yourself now!"

"Not at all, Mr. Higgins. But if she wants to pay her respects to me—to us, I shall have no objection to see her. As to what you allude to, I was misinformed. But you remember that you yourself approved my putting your nieces on their guard."

"Yes, so long as I thought it all genuine, Jane Higgins. But I begin to see that you really knew nothing about the party in question—not to call knowing,—when you wrote to Betsy; and only wanted to show off a bit. It came of taking too much on yourself, as usual. That's the great fault you've got to guard against, Jane Higgins."

Certainly Mr. Higgins could not be accused of too great uxoriousness, or any tendency to over-indulging his bride. He lectured and snubbed her and corrected her in public and in private with the utmost ruthlessness, whenever he thought he observed her straying into that besetting sin of "taking too much on herself." At the same time he was willing that she should enjoy the good things of this life which he had bestowed on her; and even shine, with a reflected lustre, as a mighty genteel, superior-mannered, personable woman, who did credit to Mr. Joshua Higgins's taste. For example, later on in the evening, when they were discussing what they should do next day by way of commencing their sight-seeing, and when Violet mentioned that she purposed going to see her friend the Signora Guarini, her uncle begged that she would make her visit very early in the morning, so as to be back in time to accompany them about eleven o'clock on their expedition.

"Not at all necessary," began Mrs. Higgins. But her husband proceeded without heeding her. "You can be back here by eleven, Violet, I suppose? By that time we shall have settled where we mean to go."

"If you really want me, Uncle Joshua."

"Well, I expect I shall want you. We mean to walk; and I don't feel sure about finding my way from this little fool of a map. And Jane Higgins, she don't feel sure about finding her way. And as we can neither of us speak the Italian language—"

"Lor, Mr. Higgins," interposed his bride; "I'm sure I can make myself understood perfectly. And then there's my knowledge of French to fall back upon."

Mr. Higgins was not unwilling to admit his wife's accomplishments. And, indeed, he honestly believed in them to a certain extent. But he remarked to her that he had noticed in coming along in the railway that, as soon as they got into Italy, she seemed not to understand what the folks said. "And," said he, "that's the chief point after all, when you want the natives to give you any information. Now Violet, she makes 'em out like print."

"I, you see, have been chiefly accustomed to Florence, where the accent is well known to be remarkably pure," said Mrs. Higgins bridling.

"Ah well, I dare say that may be it," returned her husband in perfect good faith. "But, as we don't happen to be in Florence, we'll get Violet to help us out until you can bring yourself down to the inferior lingo here."

The next morning Violet set off betimes, taking Kitty Low with her, to the Guarini's, who lived at no great distance. It was still early when she reached the well-known door; and, what with haste and what with emotion, Violet was almost breathless as she rang the bell. Pippo appeared to answer the summons, and greeted the young lady with a grave smile and a bow. "*Ben tornata, Signorina*," said he. "Welcome back to Rome."

This was more, she reflected, than any one had said to her in Dolebury. Kitty Low, with tight-shut mouth and steady light blue eye, took silent note of Pippo; and Pippo, perfectly at his ease, and without appearing to cast a glance in her direction, took silent note of Kitty Low. Pippo said that the Signora was not yet out of her room, but would, he thought, receive the Signorina. He would go and inquire; and meanwhile Violet and her attendant were ushered into the little chintz room to wait. Pippo, however, returned almost immediately, begging Violet to follow him, and in another minute she stood in her friend's presence.

Nina was breakfasting in her dressing-gown, and looked very handsome and graceful in a pale blue cashmere robe, and with her abundant black hair richly waving about her head. "My dear child," said she, holding Violet at arm's length, after having embraced her; "and you are really glad to see me again?"

"I am really most glad, dear Signora Nina."

"Violet, you are very like some one whom I dearly loved: very like! You have grown more so in your absence. It is strange!"

The truth was that Violet's face had gained in intensity and expression. It was a very young face still, of course; but it had suffered. The child-like smoothness was no longer there, and in those deeper, more womanly lines, Nina saw not only a likeness to her dead sister's outward form, but a suggestion of Marie's earnest spirit, and loving, self-sacrificing nature.

Naturally, they began to talk first of Mario Masi. How the new journal, the *Tribune of the People*, was going on. Nina said she supposed Violet knew better than any one could tell her. Of course Masi had written all particulars to her. Violet shook her head. Mario had said very little on that subject. He had so little time for writing. All at once Nina said abruptly, "And is this business really, really to go on, little one?"

"The newspaper?"

"No, *carina*; I mean—you still hold to your engagement with Masi?"

Violet looked at her with startled eyes. "Of course!" she said.

"Why should I not?"

"That is so difficult a question to answer! If I said, 'Because

he is poor and struggling,' you would answer, of course, 'All the more reason for me to cling to him!' If I said, 'Because his prospects are so uncertain that you may not be able to marry for years,' you would answer, 'I can wait.' If I said, 'Because he is not wholly worthy of you,' you would answer, 'I don't believe you!'

"Certainly, I should answer that. But I should say something more. I should say, 'Signora Nina, that is a vague accusation unworthy of you. If you have any charge to bring against Mario, bring it fairly and distinctly, so that it can be met.'

"I have no charge, no accusation, child, in the sense you mean. But—*ecco*! Your standard of life is very different from his. You would expect what he could not give you, and what he would think you childish for expecting. Your views of many things would be incomprehensible to him, as his would be incomprehensible to you."

"No, indeed; you are greatly mistaken there! Mario always understands me. And as for me, I am inexperienced, I know, and far less clever than he is; but I am young enough to learn, and I am not so obstinate and conceited as to set up my own views as the only right ones. I am sure I shall be able to adapt myself to his. When you are fond of a person that helps you to understand."

Nina looked at the girl for a minute with an indescribable expression, partly sorrowful, partly smiling, wholly kind and loving. Then she drew her towards her and kissed her, and said, "I cannot afford to make you dislike me, Violet."

"I shall never dislike you—unless you are unjust to Mario. I ought not to like any one who is against him, you know."

"Enough, enough, *ma chérie*! I might have known I should do no good by speaking. There is no other way to learn the lessons of life, but living. As for Masi, I am not against him, little one. He knows that I am his friend, and I want you to know that I am yours. And if in future you have troubles—you know they come to all, like the rain falling on the just and on the unjust—you must promise to confide them to me. I may be able to help you. I shall surely be willing. And to help Masi, too, of course," she added, smiling, for she read Violet's face like a book. "To help him, too; that's the same thing as helping you, isn't it?"

Violet heartily assented to this, and returned her friend's kiss with all her old cordiality, which had been manifestly chilled by Nina's former speeches.

"And now," said Nina, "tell me all about your new aunt. Your letters merely mentioned the fact of the marriage."

Then Violet narrated all that she knew about Mrs. Joshua Higgins, but charitably reserved a good deal of what she thought; and she described their life at Dozebury, and told about Kitty Low, in whom Nina was much interested, and whom she desired to see. Kitty in her prim black gown, and neat bonnet of peculiar ugliness, came quietly into the gaily-furnished and thoroughly foreign-looking chamber, and being invited sat down, and comported herself with her usual staid discretion.

Nina's rapid English, spoken with a foreign accent, puzzled her somewhat at first, but, having a quick ear, she was soon able to follow it without difficulty. Nina talked on in her bright way, telling her how glad Miss Moore's friends were to see her back in Rome, and how glad she (Nina) was to know that Miss Baines and her niece had such an excellent attendant, and how she hoped Kitty would soon find herself at home in Italy, and how she meant to call and pay her respects to Mrs. Higgins, and how charmed she should be to make Uncle Joshua's acquaintance, and so forth. Until at last Kitty, pulling out a huge old silver watch which had belonged to her grandmother, begged pardon, but felt it her duty to observe that it wanted only ten minutes of eleven, and that Mr. Higgins would be waiting.

On their way back to the boarding house Violet asked Kitty Low's opinion of her friend, the Signora Guarini. Kitty, who was a great admirer of beauty, was enthusiastic in her praise of Nina's looks; pronouncing her to be the beautifullest person she had ever seen, and dressed like a picture.

"And she is a kind dear friend to me, Kitty. So amiable and so clever!"

"Ah, clever she is, indeed!" assented Kitty. "Such a bright way with her! Lively, and yet not flighty. All her wits about her. She reminds me somehow of a conjuring gentleman with the neatest of shirt cuffs I saw at Charnham Corn Exchange. He would move his fingers so quick you could hardly see them sometimes; and handle the brittlest things in a way as seemed ever so careless. But, bless you, he always had a object in view, and he never broke anything."

(To be continued)



MISS M. A. WALLACE-DUNLOP'S "Glass in the Old World" (Field and Tuer, &c.), is as interesting and useful in its matter as its manner is modest. "When," says the author, "a few years ago I desired to learn something about ancient glass I found the required information scattered through many books, some of them most difficult of access; the idea then occurred to me of collecting my notes in a convenient form." The truth is that this volume embodies a very large amount of information. It is the result of an enthusiastic application to the subject, of a very considerable special knowledge, and of reading more or less wide and deep. It is impossible in a short notice to indicate with any sort of fulness how very thoroughly Miss Wallace Dunlop has acquitted herself of her task. The glass of Ancient Egypt, of Phoenicia, Greece, and Rome, of Assyria and Persia, Etruria and Pompeii, of China and Japan and India—the glass of Christian and Hebrew, Byzantine and Arab, of Ireland and Great Britain, of France and Spain, and Germany and Italy, are all treated at length, in such detail as is necessary, and with such suggestiveness as seems appropriate in a book which is the only adequate introduction to a fascinating study, and which, it may be safely prophesied, will not easily be superseded. Besides the purely historical chapters, however, there are some others which will probably find most welcome from that despised and often ill-used being the general reader. These are the accounts of imitation gems, of mosaics and wall-decoration, of windows and cups and beads, and mirrors and lamps, and other matters of household moment; whilst anybody who may be stimulated to practical research will find some very acceptable hints and facts about flexible glass, true and false Murrhine, analyses, oxides, and glazes. Finally, there is a capital index, and a variety of useful illustrations, both coloured and black-and-white. It should not be supposed, however, that Miss Wallace-Dunlop is a dull writer. Far from it. She has a good deal to learn, perhaps, in the matter of style; but she invests her subject with a personal interest, and not a little brightness. The chapter on "Beads," for instance, is quite as entertaining as it is instructive.

It is difficult to decide how to treat such a book as Mr. Hargrave Jennings's "The Childishness and Brutality of the Time" (Vizetelly and Co.). It contains the oddest mixture of unimpeachable facts and pompous imbecility of comment; it is "inbred with the exuberance of its own verbosity;" it is by turns silly and true, though the true does not preponderate; in short, it is aggravating. We may very righteously be disgusted and puzzled at the

unsatisfactory characteristics of modern life; but is it any use writing about them in such a strain as this:—"Is the Englishman's modern day life a life? Is it not rather a negation?" At the close of the day he thinks he has had a day. But has he had one? Has he thought?—has he lived?—is he satisfied? If he has thought at all, it has been a thought of disappointment." Of course this kind of thing disburdens the mind of the writer; but only at the expense of the reader, who is tempted to parody his author somewhat in this style:—"Is Mr. Jennings's book a book? At the close of it he thinks he has written a book. But has he written one? Has he really thought?"—and so on. There is no doubt the author means well. But he cannot write; he only piles words together more or less conventionally and conceitedly; and the effect of his labours is to sadden those who can see the accuracy of his facts, and the blind blunder of his treatment, whilst the ribald cynic and the frivolous and the ignorant are merely stimulated to jeering contempt. Besides, Mr. Jennings's complaints have been uttered with deeper emphasis and more lasting effect by greater preachers than he; and his descriptions are mere ineptitudes beside those of other writers, living and dead, who have gained the ears and the eyes of English men and women in a sense which, until he learns a little more of literary art, and self-command, and knowledge of the world, he cannot hope to attain to.

With certain reservations the six lectures on "Art, and the Formation of Taste" (Macmillan), by the late Miss Lucy Crane, can be recommended. The author was evidently imbued, perhaps a little too much imbued, with the tenets of Mr. Ruskin and Mr. Morris; but, unlike some fellow-disciples of these teachers, she abstains from all attempts at fine writing. Indeed, these lectures are eminently sensible and modest in tone. They are necessarily elementary; but at the same time they are practical, and they are sincere. Perhaps the best chapter is that on "Form" in decorative Art; though there are many hints of value, regarding the decoration of a fireplace in summer and other such matters, which, if they seem of minor importance, undoubtedly increase the comfort, and neutralise the inherent ugliness of most modern houses. The chapters on the "Fine Arts," however, are less commendable; the "taste" which may be expected to result from such misguidance as they contain, would be of a doubtful and somewhat pitiable kind. On elementary points of household decoration the author is generally sound, though her remarks are necessarily tentative and introductory; but when she goes on to speak of Michael Angelo and Raphael, the slightness of her knowledge and the weakness of her judgment are immediately apparent. The book is neatly got up, and is prettily and quaintly illustrated by Thomas and Walter Crane.

In "A History of Wood Engraving" (S. Low and Co.), Mr. George F. Woodberry has "attempted to gather and arrange such facts as should be known to men of cultivation interested in the art of engraving on wood." He has not succeeded in his attempt. He has, it is true, read a great deal, to all appearances; and some of his early examples—particularly those from Venice—have much interest. But his view of the art is confused, and his expounding of it misleading. When, for instance, he describes the *fac-simile* wood-cutting of pre-Bewick times as an art of design, he makes a cardinal blunder: it was an art of reproduction. But perhaps the chapter on Modern Wood Engraving is the most notable in its shortcomings. With the obvious exception of the work of Bewick and his immediate successors, it takes no account of wood engraving in England; Mr. Linton, prince of English landscape wood engravers, is hardly mentioned, and even then with a sort of vague suggestion that he is an American. Why, too, we may ask, is there no mention of Mr. Roberts, and a host of other men—English and French—who have "made" the history of wood engraving during the last fifty years? Mr. Woodberry appears to think that there is no modern wood engraving but American, and though in his vague way he is mainly right on the crucial subjects of "white line" and the "new school," his book is so loaded with misconception that its good points must be judged insignificant when weighed with its capacity for perpetuating old errors and misleading the unskilled reader.



THE INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURE recently established at South Kensington had their first lecture of the season on Monday last, when Mr. Carruthers delivered a very instructive account of farm seeds. On Monday next Professor Wrightson is to lecture on farm drainage, and on the 19th Mr. Cheshire deals with bees. The 2nd April is set aside for a lecture on grasses by Professor Buckman, and on the 9th Professor Sheldon will address the Institute on milk. Mr. Warrington on the 16th takes the subject of manures, while the crops of the farm will be the wide range of discussion assigned to Professor Fream on the 23rd. The lectures are given in the Lecture Theatre, South Kensington Museum, at eight o'clock, and, with Mr. Algernon Clarke acting as Secretary, the arrangements are, as may be imagined, satisfactory and complete.

FEBRUARY WEATHER.—The rainfall of February at Swindon was 4.07 inches, or 1.44 above the average of the last ten years. London observations show a range of the barometer from 28.97 on the 2nd to 30.64 on the 24th, being a gradient of 1.67 inch. The thermometer, 9 A.M., record only ranged from 43 on the 1st to 50 on the 28th. As apart from days upon which some rain fell there were eight regularly wet days, viz., the 2nd, 7th, 8th, 10th, 12th, 14th, 18th, and 20th. Very little rain fell during the last week of February.

THE SEASON IN SCOTLAND has not been more favourable to agriculture than it has in England, and the wheat acreage will almost certainly show 20 per cent. reduction—perhaps more. A part of this area will be sown with barley, and some oats will also be put in, but the land will not all be saved to cereal cultivation; some of it unquestionably will fall, at least for the year, out of cultivation altogether. A little hope may be derived from the potato-planting, with which some progress is already being made. Prices for potatoes are very high, and an increased acreage is likely to be given to the tuber. Grass on the pastures is beginning to grow, and the ewes are in fair order. Farmers have a general expectation of a goodly number of lambs. The death-rate among the sheep on the uplands has not been very heavy this winter.

SPRING WHEAT.—A Somersetshire correspondent says:—"In a general point of view February is the proper month to sow spring wheat, always excepting the Russian bearded or April variety, which, when sown in April, will ripen quite as early as autumn-sown wheat. The farm occupiers of the rich oolite sands of South Somerset are very fond of April wheat, which, in their opinion, suits the district better than barley. They also state that the yield of grain invariably exceeds expectations from the appearance of the crop before harvest. I am, however, strongly of opinion that it is only well adapted for deep warm friable soils of high fertility." We may add that Talavera and Nursery wheat, and a Scotch spring variety, have been a good deal sown in parts since the third week in February, when the weather began to improve. The yield from these sorts is not likely to be that of autumn-sown wheat by perhaps a quarter an acre, but the troubles of the season have left the farmer little but a choice of evils.

STOCK.—Prices of both cattle and sheep continue high, and farmers are getting the money. Butchers will hardly be able to retire to two-stall stable suburban villas on the profits of their business since Christmas. As regards the keep of stock, this is abundant, having been moderate in price, while roots are both cheap and of good quality. We are sorry to hear of sheep rot in low-lying districts, but after the prolonged rainy period this was only what every farmer expected. The stock markets are but poorly supplied just now, and the metropolitan market is but a shadow of its former self. The foot and mouth disease is being gradually got under, but only at an immense sacrifice of business conveniences. The trade in cattle has, in fact, been thrown into a quite chaotic condition, and the strain of the Privy Council Orders is extremely difficult to bear.

CATTLE SHOWS.—That a change is needful in cattle show arrangements would appear clear, when a man like Mr. Thornton, writing in the Royal Agricultural Society's *Journal* says:—"The forced and obese state in which prize animals are seen at our own agricultural societies, from the Royal downwards, distinctly tend, except in very few instances, to the deterioration, and not to the improvement of our British breeds." And another well-known authority, Mr. Morgan Evans, remarks very truly, "The remedy must be with the judges themselves, who must be able independently of the coating of beef to give their decisions, and that without regard to the opinions expressed by the people outside of the ropes, who are, as a rule, prejudiced against the angularities of lean stock. No amount of beef will cover defects if the judges know their business well, and once let them award a prize or two to breeding stock shown in a lean condition, and they will not be troubled with many over-fed young animals." We hope that warning and counsel will alike bear their fruit.

THE BARN is so characteristic a feature among the buildings of the farm, and one apparently so indispensable, that it is not very generally realised how the steam threshing, quicker marketing, prompter sales of the present day, are reducing the necessity for big barns, and on farms where there is a big and also a little barn, throwing the former out of use. It seems now as though the ensilage discovery would open up a new use for the big barn, which would form a splendid cover for a fine silo. To this use we expect in the future to see many large barns applied, and the original storage purpose of the erection will be fulfilled, though not indeed in quite the way which the original designers could have anticipated.

DAIRY FARMING cannot be wholly unprofitable in the West of England, where the Great Western Farm Dairies' Company have just declared a dividend of 7½ per cent. With respect to our recent remarks on the price of milk, a Glasgow correspondent says that, according to calculations of his own, 50 cows should yield 140,410 quarts of milk in the year, which can be sold to middle-men at 2d. per quart, and then bring in 1,170s. The cost of keep, being 6s. per week, comes to 780s., leaving 390s. profit, out of which wages have to be paid, and an insurance on loss of stock paid also. Whether the services of the middle-man are not to be had under 2d. or 3d. per quart on the milk is not yet very clear. We are much obliged for our correspondent's details, based as they are on considerable and extensive experience of dairy farming.

DISEASE AMONG HORSES.—The present outbreak of an epidemic known as pinkeye calls attention to the fact that strange waves of pestilence seem to pass over the equine as well as over the human race. One of the earliest instances we have is that of the great pestilence of 1707, when an enormous mortality occurred among horses in England, the Netherlands, and in America. This disease does not appear to have been really eradicated in England for some years, as in 1770 we hear of great losses therefrom in Surrey. The disease now raging made terrible havoc in American stables in 1871 and 1872, but it was not till 1873 that serious disaster overtook the horse-owners of this island. In that year Scotland suffered very severely. The year 1875 seems to have been marked by general ill-health in stock, the London Omnibus Company sustaining greatly over the average percentage of yearly loss. In 1876 the murrain in Egypt was terrible. Over one half of the live stock are stated to have died. Pinkeye broke out last year in countries as far apart as America, Belgium, and Russia. From one or more of these places it seems to have been introduced into England, where it is unfortunately now raging.

THE YEovil CHAMBER OF AGRICULTURE have petitioned the Privy Council to enforce a quarantine of a fortnight on all cattle at ports of debarkation. The Chamber added a local explanation that most if not all the cases of foot-and-mouth disease in Somerset were to be traced to Bristol, the port of debarkation for the district.

FARMERS OF SOUTH-WESTERN ENGLAND.—At a meeting of Devonshire and Cornish farmers and landowners, held on March 1, resolutions were passed, urging that the most stringent means should be adopted to prevent the importation of cattle infected with contagious diseases, and that all fat animals should be slaughtered at the port at which they are disembarked. The same meeting also passed a resolution against Government compelling farmers to sell corn by one specified weight alone; and it entered a protest against the endeavours of railway companies to obtain a considerable advance in the rates for the carriage of artificial manures.

LORD WALSHINGHAM will probably not be alone in his objections to a very common form of imposture in the present day, namely, that of obtaining sympathy under false pretences. The fact that the Bill now before Parliament with reference to pigeon shooting has had its origin with anti-vivisectionists, and with opponents of all forms of sport, has induced a critical examination of what otherwise would have been regarded as a meritorious measure. Nor has this careful criticism proved unnecessary; for it is found that the Bill is so ingeniously worded that, passed, as it now stands, it would stop not only pigeon-shooting but also stag-hunting, coursing trapped hares and rabbits, or even rats. This ingenious—hardly *ingenious*—proposal is effected by back references to two existing statutes upon which a particular interpretation is to be put by the new Act. Life with most men being far too short for many back references, and the Bill being spoken of as designed against pigeon-shooting simply, there was a real need for Lord Walsingham's careful inquiry and pertinent warning.

THE NORTH SEA PILOT

Who'd be a North Sea pilot,
A hearty, hale, old man;
Always about on the waves so blue,
With the hardest work of all the crew,
And a skin the colour o' tan, Yo, Ho!
And a skin the colour o' tan?
Who'd have to start o' midnight
To take some good ship out,
To take her down to Dover Light,
Nine out o' ten on a dirty night,
When it's rough work putting about, Yo, Ho!
When it's rough work putting about?
Who'd have a little cabin
Down by the Hamburg quay?
Who'd have a little German wife?
You might do worse than that in life,
For the North Sea pilot's light is she,
The pilot's light is she, Yo, Ho!
And I wouldn't change wi' ye.

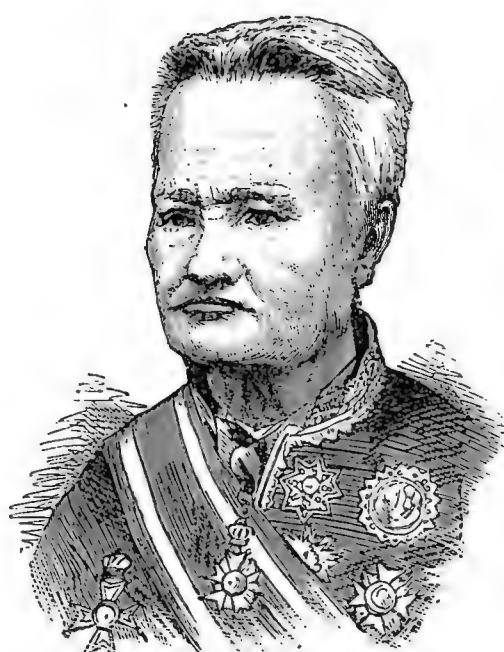
J. V. W.



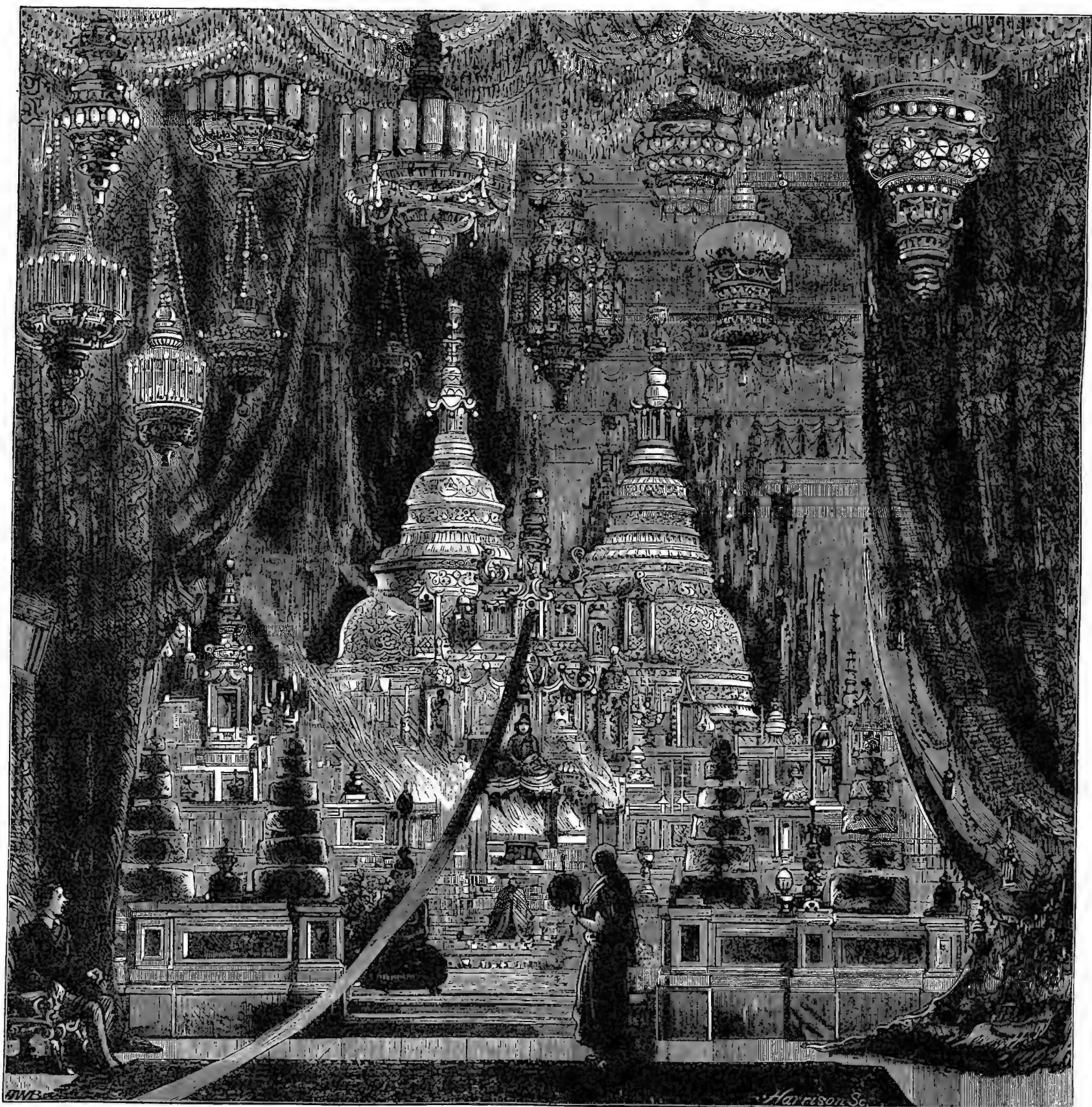
HER MAJESTY SWĀNGWADHANĀ P'HRA PARAMARĀJA
DEVĪ, QUEEN OF SIAM



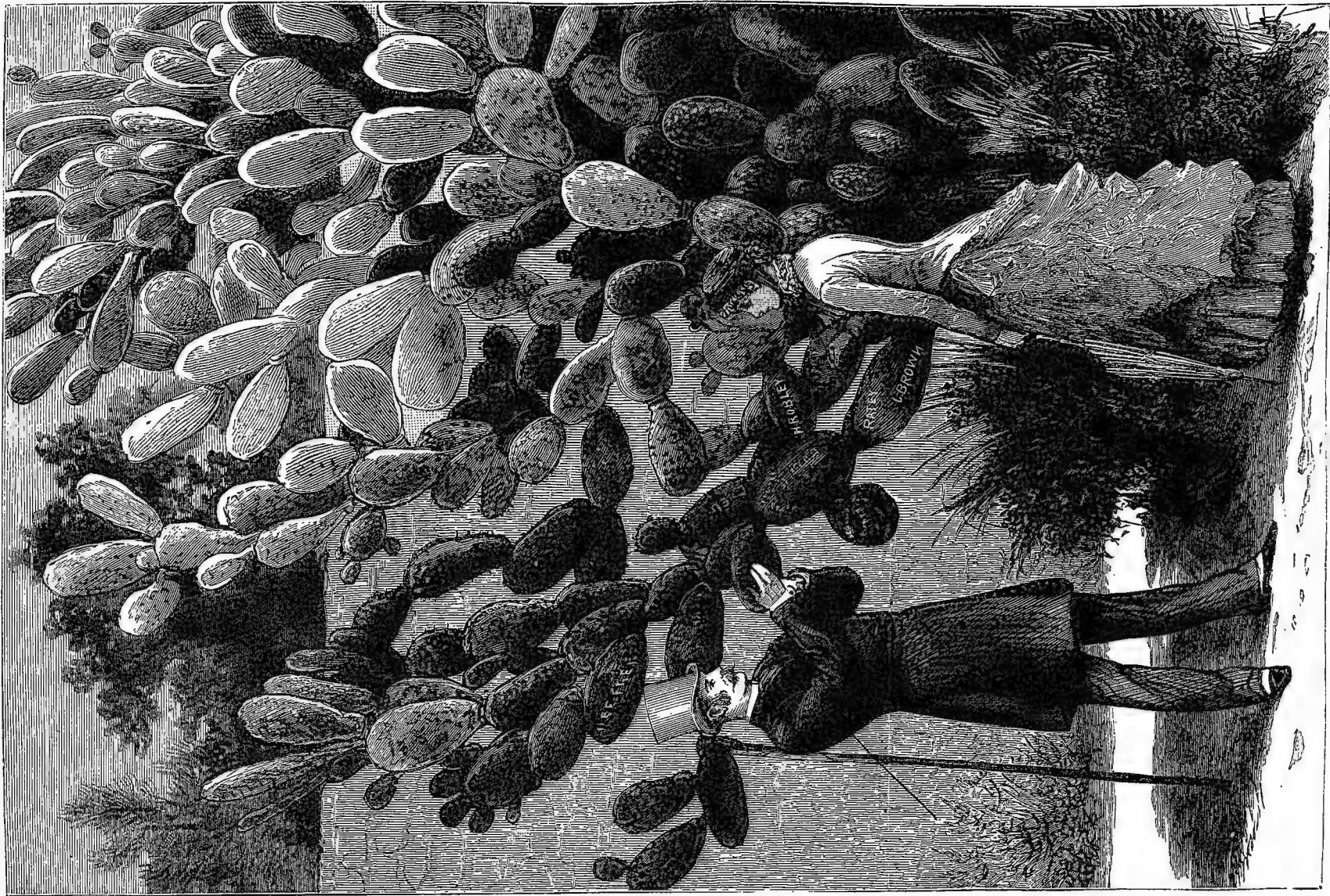
HIS MAJESTY KHOULALONKHORN, KING OF SIAM



HIS HIGHNESS SRĪSURİYAWONGSE, EX-REGENT
OF SIAM



THE CREMATION OF THE LATE QUEEN OF SIAM AND HER INFANT DAUGHTER AT BANGKOK, SIAM



ONE WAY OF LEAVING VISITING CARDS AT THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE



"LITTLE SNOWSHOES"—A CANADIAN SKETCH



I.

THERE is no lack of ability in the new Conservative monthly, the *National Review*. "Above all, no Programme"—the advice tendered by Lord Beaconsfield when the scheme was first mooted—is the motto of Mr. Alfred Austin's article; but this only means that the new Review will be a general defender of those Conservative principles and institutions from which Radicals would fain wean the nation to follow new idols of their own imagining. The opening "Dialogue and Moral" has an air of more reality than imaginary dialogues usually possess; and Mr. Mallock, in his "Radicalism and the People," shoots an arrow which has hit the mark in his Baconian division of the representatives of "Radicalism into Radicals of the Cave, the Temple, and the Market-place," humorously typified by the *doctrinaire Pall Mall*, the religious *Spectator*, and the practical Mr. Chamberlain. In the non-political articles Canon Gregory contributes an interesting *resumé* of "Church Work in the Present Century;" and Mr. Courthope, an extremely well-written paper on "Conservatism in Art"—the balance, as Sir Joshua Reynolds puts it, of contrary qualities in obedience to settled rules—the opposite of which is the Radical eccentricity which disdains alike tradition and authority. The plain man, if he spoke his inmost thought, would probably add that Mr. Hannay's critique of "The Paintings of Rossetti" was a forcible, and in the main a truthful, sermon on Mr. Courthope's text.

The *Scottish Review* (Alex. Gardner and Co.) is an altogether satisfactory second number. A well-informed paper on Archbishop Tait concludes an able survey of his work as Primate, with a warm defence of his letter to Mr. Mackonochie. The step, so the writer holds, had been long and carefully considered, and the Archbishop's disapproval of Ritualistic extremes was as strong as ever. But his clear judgment had revolted against the imprisonment of earnest men for conscience' sake, and he hoped for the day when minor points of difference should be sunk in the common battle against sin and unbelief. "Ancient Celtic Latin Hymns" will interest more for their antiquity than for any other quality; but there is an excellent article on "Religious Novels and the Christian Ideal;" and a charming review of a recent history of "the Scots Guard in France." Most readers of modern ballads know all about "the island of the Scots;" few probably have heard of the battle near Gioia against Gonzalvo de Cordova, the "Great Captain," where the Scots Guard fell almost to a man around their standard amidst twice their number of dead Spaniards—reputed then the first infantry in Europe.

The older March reviews on the whole are dull. A short poem by the Laureate in the *Nineteenth Century*, accompanied by two translations in Greek and Latin, should please the lovers of classic verse-making. Mr. Wickham's Latin version reads most charmingly, though one half suspects that metrical considerations have given "virides" its place in the last line but one.—Mr. F. Harrison contributes an eloquent defence of the much abused "Eighteenth Century" against the charge often brought against it as an age of dishonesty and mediocrity. The century which produced an Arkwright and a Watt, a Hume and a Bentham, a Clarkson and a Wilberforce, and which brought about the great and vital transformation of the English people from a rural to an urban population, was clearly no mean or ordinary time. At the most Mr. Harrison will only admit that its poets were possibly second-rate.—The aesthete may learn from Mr. Watts's "Truth About Rossetti" that the painter's life-long quest was to expel asceticism from romantic art, and combine instead a sensuousness like Titian's with the mysticism of the old Pre-Raphaelites; or may shudder at Mr. Gurney's frank confession ("Wagner and Wagnerism"), how he listened with delight to the famous passage which represented as he thought the passing of Siegfried through the Ring of Fire, till, turning to the book, he found he had lost the place, and that the music really symbolised the slumber of Brunhilde.—Sir Lintorn Simmons's "Weakness of Our Army" is written with much fear in vain. We may arrange our "little wars" more neatly than we used; no bit-by-bit reforms will fit us to take part in a land campaign upon the Continent.

The *Fortnightly* has several fair though no particularly striking articles. Mr. Labouchere, in his reckless way, lets us see in "A Democrat on the Coming Democracy" how far advanced Radicals will go when Parliaments are returned by equal electoral districts snugly managed by the Caucus.—Sir Bartle Frere's "Abolition of Slavery in India and Egypt" is equally interesting for a succinct account of a great change effected noiselessly in 1843, and its suggestion that a similar "Constitutional Amendment" might very well be tried in Egypt. At least it would awaken less opposition than forcible emancipation.—Mr. Kebbel writes half warningly, half sadly on the "County System," and the contemplated changes which, under the disguise of administrative reforms, mean really the calling into existence of new political elements in places where Church and Land have hitherto been supreme: and Mr. Bryce describes what "the Future of Our Universities" must be, if ever they are to become really popular. As matters stand, they lose the middle classes, through entering men too late, and imparting no special professional instruction; on the other hand, the fetish of examinations keeps down the standard of Professorial lectures, and prevents their becoming what they are in Germany, the highest teaching which specialists can give in every department of human knowledge.

A paper, by Sir R. A. Cross, on "County Government," in the *Contemporary*, seems almost as much an official *communiqué* as an essay. Measures, we are told, to provide for the fair representation of ratepayers in the governing body, with the object of improving its efficiency, will receive from the Conservatives impartial consideration, not so, if the object be to destroy rather than to amend, and to "build up some other body on radically different principles."—Mr. Yves Guyot seeks to enlist English sympathies for his argument that the "Municipal Organisation of Paris" should be a matter solely for the Municipal Council. Let the State take the "political" Police, if it has any use for them, and let everything else be managed in the same way as in the smaller cities of France. The post of Municipal Councillor of Paris would then be an office to which the best men would aspire.—Mr. Edwin Arnold gives a graceful version of "The Enchanted Lake: an Episode from the Mahabharata;" and Mr. Capper an excellent account of "Siena," the rival once of Florence in arts and arms, and still one of the most interesting cities of Central Italy. Only the picture wants a little of the glow which J. A. S. has accustomed us to look for in Italian sketches.

In the *Cornhill* a paper upon "Boys," by "a humble student of savage life," is the wittiest among its pleasant essays.—"Wild Shooting" is a delightful survey of a field of adventure which the march of civilisation narrows every year until, perchance, the day will come when men will go for wild sport not to the jungles of the tropics, but to some Highland county which Anglo-American millionaires have converted parish by parish into a wilderness; and the memoir-writer is well represented by two capital sketches—one of Madame de Sevigné's "Marquis de Grignan," the other of "El Hariri," author of the "Makamat," that curious collection of verse and prose, proverbs, wise sayings, and dramatic dialogues, without knowing which no "Eastern gentleman's" education is complete.—"A new serial, 'The Gate of

the Sea," opens well, and its elder companion, "No New Thing," becomes more interesting than ever, as Philip and Tom Stannforth seem each approaching the fate we could have desired for them long ago.

In *Blackwood* Mrs. Oliphant's charming novel is this month the only great attraction.—A paper on "Contemporary Art—Rossetti and Tadmara—Linnell and Lawson," is, however, extremely readable. Like most dispassionate observers the writer sees "a period of determined decadence" in what, according to Mr. Watts, was an epoch not of declining power, but of "new experiments in flesh-painting."—To *Temple Bar* Lady Pollock sends an interesting memoir of "Sims Reeves;" and the author of "Frontier Lands of the Christian and the Turk" more "Personal Reminiscences of Lord Stratford and the Crimean War." The valour of the Allies was never perhaps more conspicuous since Inkerman than in the capture of those outer works which had to be stormed before they could march against the Malakoff and the Redan.

In *Macmillan* is a delightful account of "Addington," by its late vicar, Mr. Benham, before and since its acquisition by the Archbishops of Canterbury. The author of "John Inglesant" discusses "The Humorous in Literature" with so strong a sense of the pathos which underlies all humour that we begin to doubt, as we go on, whether we should not rather weep than laugh over half the masterpieces of modern humourists.—"Disastrous Effects of Sobriety Again" seriously warn teetotallers that they must rouse themselves, if the deficit they cause in the revenue goes on, "to consider things outside the range of their own idea."

In the *Century* is a very able memoir of M. Gambetta, penned while the great Tribune was still in vigorous health, though none the worse on that account as an estimate of his true value as a chief factor in French Republican politics. Mr. Cable graphically describes "The End of Foreign Dominion in Louisiana;" and Mr. Riordan tells us how the new "Architectural League of New York" are planning to improve the domestic architecture of the Empire City. In *Harper* are some more of the delightful "Artists' Strolls in Holland;" a good account of the performance of Wagner's "Parsifal at Bayreuth;" and a picturesque paper on the early "French Voyageurs," Jacques Cartier, Jean Ribaut, and Samuel de Champlain, by Colonel Higginson.

We have also to acknowledge *Good Words*, with some more notes of "Alpine Resorts," and Part II. and last of Principal Shairp's "Dr. Pusey and the Oxford Movement;" the *Sunday Magazine*, with a touching biography of "A French Protestant Pastor, Emile Cook;" the *Theatre*, with a memoir of "Joe Miller," actor and jester, by Dutton Cook; the *Leisure Hour*, Cassell's *Family Magazine*, the *Quiver*, the *Sunday at Home*, *Chambers*, *All the Year Round*, and last, not least, that charming companion of the *Century*, *St. Nicholas*, with a neatly-told reminiscence of the adventures of two specials—a famous war correspondent and an artist of *The Graphic*—from the pen of the former, entitled "Where was Villiers?"



"KEITH'S WIFE," a Novel, by Lady Violet Greville (3 vols. : Bentley and Son), is very considerably above the ordinary mark of fiction in point of merit, and in many respects reaches excellence. That it is nevertheless far from being entirely satisfactory is due to the author's having brought her principal character into a position from which he cannot emerge at once both happily and honourably, and to her having failed to perceive this collision between interest and honour. Keith has, through a strange complication of accidents, for which he was answerable in fact, though not in intention, caused the death by poison of a girl to whom he had been engaged, and who has made him heir to her large fortune. A disappointed kinsman very reasonably, under all the circumstances, believes him guilty of murdering the girl for the sake of this inheritance, upon which Keith, although she had broken off the engagement, and would probably have altered her will, does not scruple to enter. Though he was, morally speaking, no murderer, there are the facts that he did poison her, and that this act of his alone enabled him, a needy man, to benefit by the will of one who had become nothing to him. The disappointed relation is conveniently killed off, and even Keith's wife Dorothy, supposed to be the noblest-hearted of women, appears to think that she and her husband thus became justified in holding to what had come to them so discreditably. It is clearly impossible for the reader to agree with her, or to accept the view of honour which the exigencies of an otherwise unmanageable plot demand. Apart from this inherent fault, unquestionably a great one, which makes itself felt throughout, "Keith's Wife" merits very cordial praise. The exceedingly varied characters are admirably contrasted, the story is rendered interesting in spite of its finally disappointing nature, it is often amusing, and the novel generally displays qualities which would entitle it to a high place had they been exercised upon a plot which could possibly excite sympathy.

In "Lemuel; The Romance of Politics" (2 vols. : Tinsley Brothers), the author of "Cynthia" introduces us to a young man who appears to have deliberately modelled himself upon one of Lord Beaconsfield's brilliant heroes—or, rather, to have laid himself out to burlesque them. At twenty years old he determines, in some indefinite fashion, to conquer the world, declares that there is nothing except himself worth believing in, and openly insults his uncle, aunt, and family lawyer, who very naturally consider him a young fool. However, his fate is in his author's hands, and these justify his behaviour by making him a Cabinet Minister before he is thirty. In addition to extraordinary beauty, and a voice of silver, we are told that he possessed genius, and a supreme fascination over both men and women. He is, moreover, though an aggressive unbeliever—which is hardly consistent, by the way, with his alleged power of fascination—of the race of Sidonia; so it is clear enough from what school for heroes he comes. The novel is constructed upon corresponding lines, even to the now antiquated political period chosen for the stage. One thing, however, the author has forgotten to observe—that he who would imitate Lord Beaconsfield's successes must imitate him, first of all, in being without a model; secondly, in dealing with realities, however extravagantly they may be travestied; thirdly, in making his characters display some of those striking qualities of mind with which they are credited. The most obvious thing about "Lemuel" is that the author of "Cynthia" has been reading "Vivian Grey" and "Coningsby," and has been fired with the desire to imitate what he has admired, with what result may be readily imagined. He has caught a mannerism or two, and now and then has reproduced them rather neatly, but this only adds a fatal emphasis to the contrast between the original and the copy.

"Julian Ormonde," by William Charles Maugham (2 vols. : Alexander Gardner) belongs to fiction scarcely more than in form. A not very exciting love story serves for the framework of a not particularly adventurous yacht voyage round the world, and this again as a vehicle for the results of Mr. Maugham's thoughts and observations. How numerous and how widely reaching are these may be judged from the fact that these two volumes comprise a view—political, social, and picturesque—of California, Utah, Japan, Java, and British India, with dissertations upon nearly the entire field of English politics, and upon love, marriage, and religion. It is a great merit in the volumes that the reflections and opinions they contain are free from all affectation of originality or excep-

tional profundity. Mr. Ormonde and his companions are travellers of the best sort—they observe for themselves, and thus reach novel results now and then, but are never afraid of confirming or repeating the experiences of former travellers over the same ground. On the assumption that they are Mr. Maugham's own mouthpieces, and that he writes with personal knowledge of what he describes, he has done well to give his observations to the world. The reader must be prepared to take, as in a real journey with a living companion, the dull with the lively, the trite with the fresh; he will be often interested—often amused; not seldom bored.

Whatever may be the merits of Mrs. Horace Dobell's poems, very little indeed can be said in favour of her prose stories. "Dark Pages; or, The Secrets of an Old Bureau" (3 vols. : Remington and Co.), consists of three extravagantly sensational tales, containing incidents that appear to have been selected on account of their entire absence of meaning in themselves, and want of connection with one another. Some imagination was required for their invention, but this has by no means compensated for the complete absence of the constructive skill and the clearness of intention which tales of a gloomy kind beyond all others demand.



MESSRS. WEEKES AND Co.—When, in the course of a few months, we review some hundreds of glees, part-songs, and other specimens of concerted music—all pleasing, and some really clever compositions—it sets us wondering why the programmes at concerts, great and small, are so overdone with ballads and songs, to the almost, if not complete, exclusion of trios, quartets, and choral work in general. If Mr. A—sings two songs, and is encored for both, Mr. B—must do likewise, with the same result; as must also Madame C—and Miss D—. Supposing the eight to be encored, this inflicts upon a patient audience no less than sixteen ballads in one evening, whereas, if the four soloists agreed to sing one or two quartets, or glees, the concerts would be brighter and less monotonous, and yet each one might have a solo and its pendant encore. Nos 31 to 34 of "Weekes and Co.'s Series of Glees, Part-Songs, &c.," are, respectively—"The Voice of Spring," poetry by Mrs. Hemans, music by W. E. Bendall, who has also composed the music for "I'll Never Love Thee More," words by the Marquis of Montrose (1614-1650); "Sundown," words from the German of Uhland; and "The Curfew," Longfellow's charming poem. All are bright and seasonable, moderately easy, and within the compass of ordinary S.A.T.B. voices.—A soprano will find "Blossoms of Springtide," written and composed by T. Mozer and Hector R. Maclean, a welcome addition to her *répertoire*. "Thirteen Original Organ Pieces," by Charles J. Frost, Mus. Doc., Cantab, may be well recommended to organists for their variety and suitability for many occasions. The name of their composer is sufficient guarantee for their excellence from a musical point of view.—"Giocoso" is a lively *caprice* for the pianoforte, by H. R. Maclean, useful for school-room practice.—Of a more than ordinary type is "Moments Délicieux," a valse by Walter E. Allen: the melody is flowing, and will dwell on the memory long after it has ceased.

MESSRS. S. SPRAGUE AND Co.—Utility and pleasure for the student are combined in "Three Rhapsodies for the Pianoforte," by Walter Wesché. No. 1, "Capricieuse;" No. 2, "Romantique;" No. 3, "Heroïque." The first-named is the most original of the three.—"The Osmond Valse," by Rhys; "The Court Favourite Waltz," by Emile Laurie; and "The Wasp Polka," by Rudolf Herzen, are fairly good specimens of dance music.

C. JEFFERYS.—From this firm come six songs of more than ordinary merit, for all of which H. Delavie has supplied the words. The music for three of these is by Berthold Tours, namely, "Heed Thine Angels," a sacred song of medium compass and by no means difficult; "Beautiful Rose," of which the same may be said; and "The Goldfinch," a quaint melody, the effect of which is spoiled by the nonsensical words.—"The Lost Idol," music by Michael Watson, will please more from a musical than a poetical point of view.—"Joel and Miranda," a dialogue song by Franz Abt, is certainly not wanting in originality; the compass is from D below the lines to G above the lines.—Last, but not the least pleasing of the group, is "Where Shall My Soul Abide?" a sacred song by Ed. Reylof.

MISCELLANEOUS.—"Her Portrait" is a pathetic song, compass C to E, written and composed by Percy G. Mocatta and Alfred Allen (Messrs. W. Morley and Co.)

FATHER CURCI, the priest whom the Jesuits turned out of their Order for too much plain-speaking, is the great Lenten attraction in Rome this year, as he now preaches for the first time since his disgrace. The Pope has taken Father Curci under his wing, but even Leo himself does not dare to offend the Jesuits by permitting the Father to preach in any of the Roman churches, so the sermons are delivered on Sundays in the Sinibaldi Palace, where admission can only be had by ticket, the entrance-fee going to the poor. Father Curci's object is to reconcile the Church and State in Italy, and to illustrate the sentiment that Liberals can be good Catholics, and good Catholics can be patriots. He has just brought out a translation of the Psalms from the Hebrew, with notes embodying the latest results of German research—a work which has made no small stir in Italy, where Scriptural criticism is at its lowest ebb, and the people are positively afraid to read the Bible itself. The Pope approves of the translation, but rigid Papists hold aloof. The ex-Jesuit, by the way, is not unlike his protector, Pope Leo, and is over seventy years of age.

ILLNESS AWAY FROM HOME is bad enough, but illness in an American seaside hotel is a thing to be avoided at all costs, to judge from a recent case in the New Jersey coast. Here an unfortunate lady and gentleman were taken ill with typhoid fever, and the proprietor, either really afraid that his other guests would leave for fear of infection, or seeing his way to making a good sum of money out of the sufferers, threatened to turn them out of doors unless he received 1,000*l.* for compensation. This extortion being at first refused, he made preparations to turn out the patients in the middle of the night, making a great noise in the hotel, pretended to fit up a hospital, and put up a notice that the building would be closed at once. The relations at last paid the money and were left in peace, but the excitement once over the landlord took no further notice of the illness, and not only kept his hotel open till the end of the summer, but joked over the affair with his servants, and boasted of the 1,000*l.* he had made. Having their suspicions of the sanitary condition of the house, the sufferers sent a Board of Health official to inspect the hotel, and his researches revealed a shocking state of affairs. The water-cisterns were infected in every possible way, the sanitary arrangements were all out of order, and a pool of stagnant water was found under the kitchen floor, which percolated through when the floor was scrubbed. Consequently the victims of his extortion have indicted the landlord for "robbery, riot, extortion, assault, and maintenance of a nuisance." The trial is now proceeding before a New Jersey Court, and the verdict is eagerly awaited, as it is felt that such heartless conduct deserves a severe punishment, not to speak of creating a precedent which might lead to disastrous consequences.

DEATHS.

On the 23rd ult., at Ixelles, Belgium, after a long illness, FÉLIX ROMEY, in his 63rd year.
On the 15th ult., at 30, Vauxhall Street, Lambeth, Mr. RICHARD RUSSELL, in his 72nd year.
Entered into Rest on February the 22nd, at 3, Milken Villas, St. Helier's, Jersey, Miss SOPHIA GOMM, Third Daughter of late Captain James GOMM, Royal Navy, also first Cousin of Field-Marshal Sir William Maynard Gomm, G.C.B., and Niece to the late Countess Bruhl. She leaves four surviving Sisters to deplore their loss.

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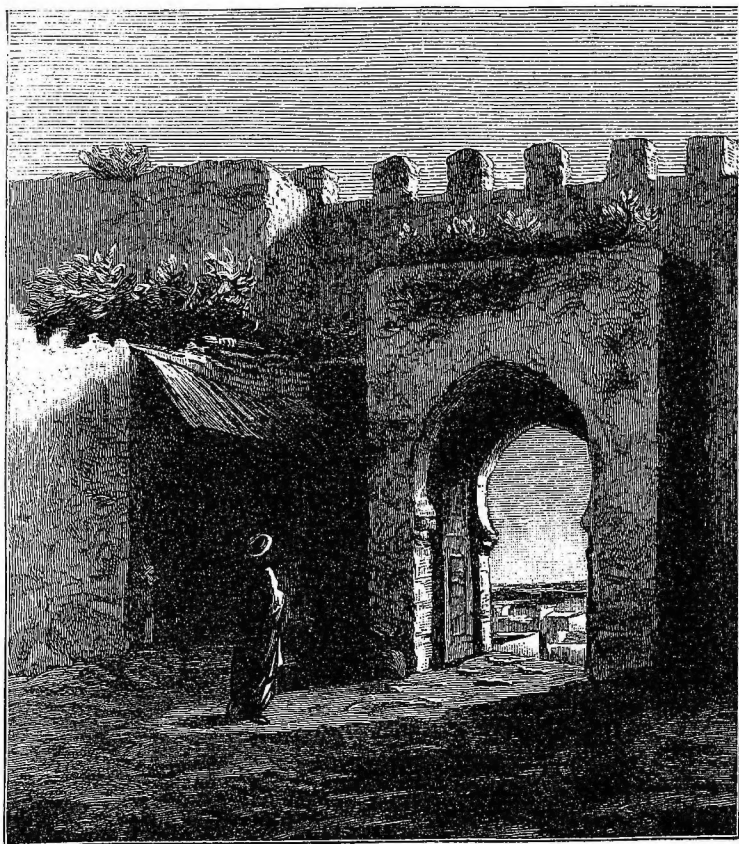
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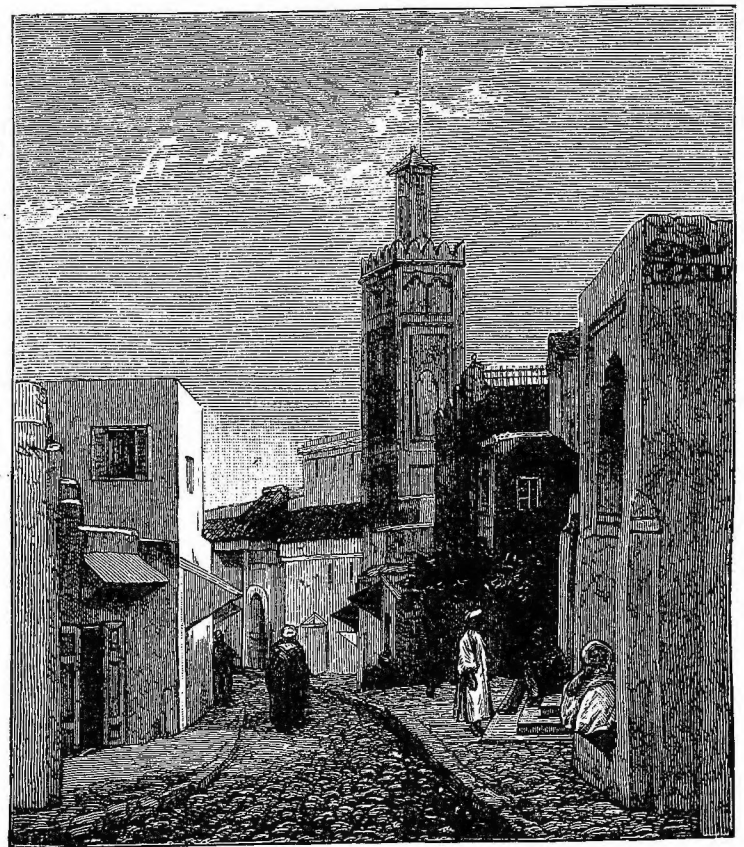
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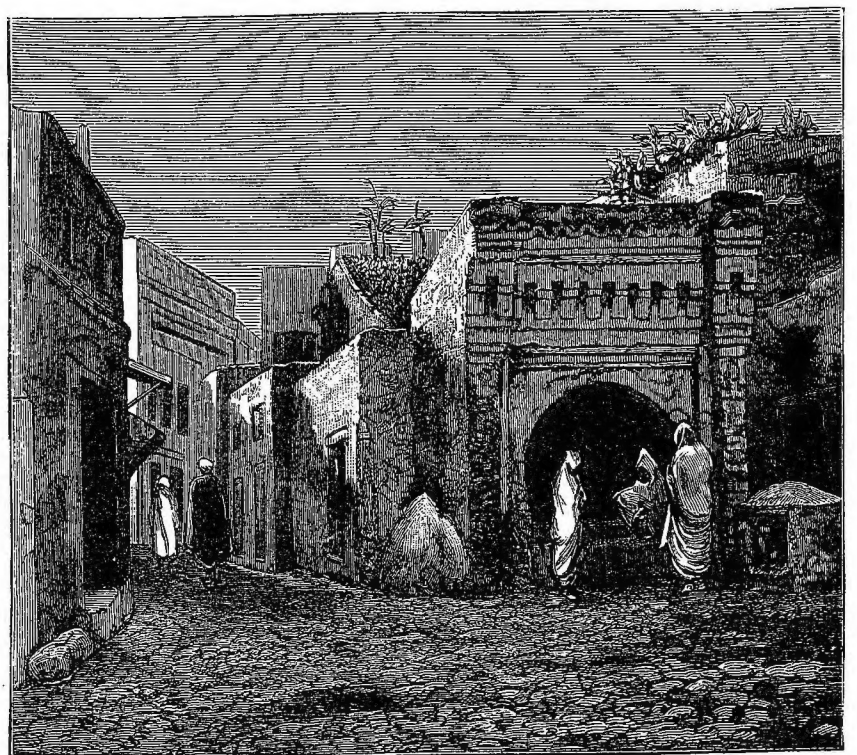
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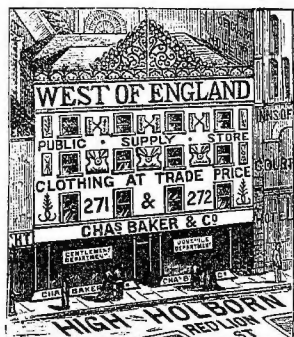
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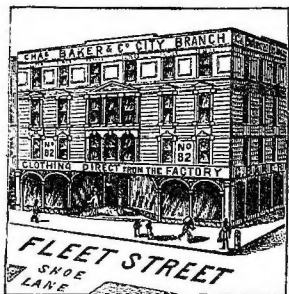
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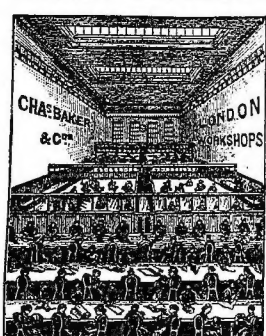
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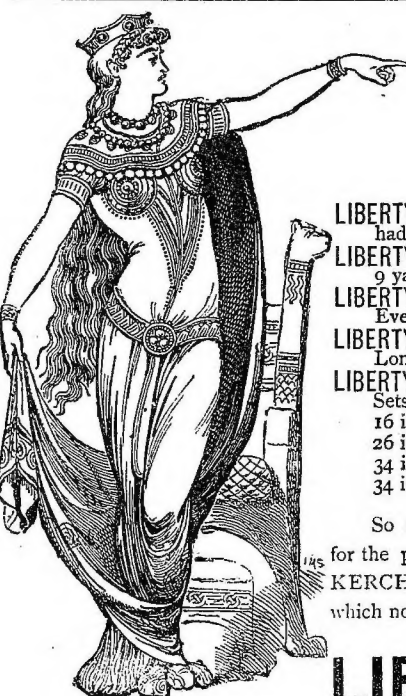
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